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SECTION A. DESCRIPTION of the PROGRAMME

A. 1. Title of the Programme

Title: Nepal Biogas Support Program -PoA

Date: 23/07/2014

Version no.: 01

A. 2. Purpose and eligibility of the Programme under Gold Standard

[See Toolkit 1.2 and Annex C]

The biogas support program (BSP) aims at implementing household biogas applications. These applications displace firewood and fossil fuels with biogas from animal waste. The biogas is used as a fuel for cooking; therefore, the displacement of non-renewable biomass (NRB) is counted as emission reduction under the Gold standard.

Target group under the BSP are households with at least one head of cattle (generally Cows or Buffalos) who currently use non-renewable biomass (firewood) for cooking purpose. The baseline of the PoA considers only non-renewable biomass replaced through household biogas application. Only households previously using non-renewable biomass are eligible to the PoA.

BSP currently supports to implement up to 20,000 digesters for each CPA under this PoA, which assures to remain within the small-scale threshold.

Assessment of CPA eligibility

Criteria	Description	Eligibility Y/N
Scale	CPAs under the PoA will be implemented household biogas application. These applications displace firewood and fossil fuels with biogas from animal waste and human excreta. The biogas is used as a fuel for cooking, therefore the displacement on non-renewable biomass is counted as emission reduction under the CDM. It is a small-scale projects because it will not exceed 45MWh thermal, whilst the thermal capacity of each individual digester will not exceed 450kWthermal energy savings.	Y
Host country	Nepal (Non-Annex 1 country)	Y
GHG Cap	No cap for GS CERs, Nepal is a non-Annex I country	Y

Type	Renewable Energy project	Y
Greenhouse gases	CO ₂	Y
Receipt of ODA in return for carbon credits	No public funding of the CPA and therefore no ODA is diverted towards this CPA, see ODA declaration Annex 1.	Y
Other certification schemes	No other voluntary carbon schemes are applied.	Y
CPA compliance with GS eligibility criteria	All CPAs under the PoA are compliant with the eligibility criteria stated above	Y

PoA timeframe: The duration of the PoA is as per the CDM PoA crediting period and shall not exceed 28 years. This is a retroactive CPA / PoA submission and a Local Stakeholder Consultation and Design consultation have been conducted as per Gold Standard requirements.

The starting date of the PoA and the first CPA is 22/06/2007. The CPA crediting period will not exceed the PoA end date.

A. 3. Current status of the programme

Provide information on the status of key project cycle stages (financing, equipment procurement, construction, commissioning) with dates where possible/ relevant.

[See Toolkit 2.5]

The current status of the project is following:

Date	Activity	Evidence
17/10/2006	Memorandum of Understanding between AEPC and KfW on biogas CDM Project for the long term ERPA, a few months after the EB launched guidelines, procedures and templates for the registration of CDM PoA projects.	MoU between AEPC and KfW dated 17/10/2006

01/02/2008	Approval of New methodology AMS.I.E. by UNFCCC during CDM EB -37	http://cdm.unfccc.int/metadata/hodologies/DB/4AWU125UNQLOC5JAMXQFU60KDCJNUA/view.html
04/07/2008	Signing of a Consultant contract between Climate Focus, AEPC and KfW to develop the CDM PoA documents.	Contract letter
17/07/2008	Financing agreement between AEPC and KfW for the CDM project from ERPA.	Financing agreement
33/01/2013	The project activity is registered on UNFCCC and registration number is 9572	http://cdm.unfccc.int/ProgrammeOfActivities/poa_db/7BSCYZMH2U05TWXFJKELND18PRQ96O/view
15/08/2014	Local stakeholder consultation (according to GS rules) meeting conducted	Minutes of meeting

By 25/08/2014, there are five CPAs included in the PoA. The CPA-1 was included at the time of the CDM registration of the PoA, CPA-2/3/4 were included on 08/05/2014 and CPA-5 was included in the PoA on 25/08/2014.

SECTION B. DESIGN OF STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION PROCESS

B. 1. Design of physical meeting(s)

The Local Stakeholder Consultation was conducted on PoA level. This is considered appropriate due to following reasons:

- CPAs are not geographically distinct; CPAs will be determined by stove numbers, not by geographic boundaries. The project area is Nepal for all project activities.
- The same technology (with different size of biogas plant) will be used in all CPAs covered by this LSC.
- The target population is rural households all over Nepal. Rural households in Nepal have very similar socio-economic characteristics and fuel wood collection. Therefore, project impacts on target population will be the same all over Nepal.
- Since the baseline scenario is replacement of non-renewable biomass, and fuel wood resources decrease in the whole country, the environmental impact of wood savings due to the use of Biogas stoves is not site dependent.

i. Agenda

The LSC was organized in the meeting hall of Chetana Kendra, Dhulikhel Kavre. The meeting was conducted on 15 August 2014. The meeting agenda is presented below:

Time	Agenda	Responsibility
9:00-9:30	Registration & Tea/Breakfast	All
9:30-9:45	Welcome and Introduction	Raju Laudari, AD, AEPC
9:45-10:05	Introduction of Nepal Biogas PoA and Gold Standard	Neelam Sharma Rijal, AEPC/NRREP
10:05-10:30	Implementation, Quality Assurance and Monitoring of Biogas in Nepal	Biogas Sub-component, AEPC
10:30-10:45	Prototype Demonstration	BSP/N
10:45-11:15	Experience Sharing from the Users	Biogas Users
11:15-12:15	Q/A session	All
12:15-13:30	Lunch	All
13:30-13:45	Sustainability indicators for PoA	All
13:45-14:15	Discussion of monitoring of sustainability	All
14:15-14:45	Discussion on continuous input/grievance mechanism	All
14:45-15:15	Tea Break	All
15:15-15:45	Discussion on PoA Design	All
15:45-16:15	Feedback/Comments from Participants	
16:15-16:30	Evaluation and closure of meeting	All

ii. Non-technical summary of the Programme

Please be aware that carbon market specific terms may not be appropriate for the readers/ audience of this summary.

[See Toolkit 2.6 and Annex J]

Non-technical Summary of Nepal Biogas Support Program (PoA)

The program of activities (hereinafter referred to as “PoA”) - Nepal Biogas Support Program - is a nation-wide programm for the dissemination of household biogas digesters, managed by Alternative Energy Promotion Center (AEPC). It is registered under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) in order to allow for the generation of carbon credits since January 31, 2013. Additionally, the PoA is now seeking retroactive registration under the Gold Standard, which implies a particular focus on sustainable development benefits. The PoA consists in several CDM project activities (CPA) that will consist in the dissemination of approx. 20,000 household biogas digesters each; all CPAs will be implemented within the geographical boundary of Nepal. The type of the digesters included will receive the subsidies as governed by the subsidy policy and subsidy delivery mechanism of the Government of Nepal.

Large number of Nepalese households depends on firewood to fulfill their basic energy requirements related to cooking. Continuous extraction of firewood leads to deforestation and ultimately interferes with the firewood availability in future. This is the reason that 86% of the firewood used for cooking in Nepal comes from the non-renewable sources. Implementation and use of biogas digesters therefore substitutes the non-renewable biomass from the baseline. Digesters generate biogas from cow manure; the gas can be used for cooking just as LPG. On weighted average basis, each biogas digester can save around 3.3 tons of firewood from each household which prevents around of 3 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent attributable to the non-renewable biomass to be emitted in the atmosphere. This reduction of emission can be traded to earn revenue that helps in propagating the digester implementation further.

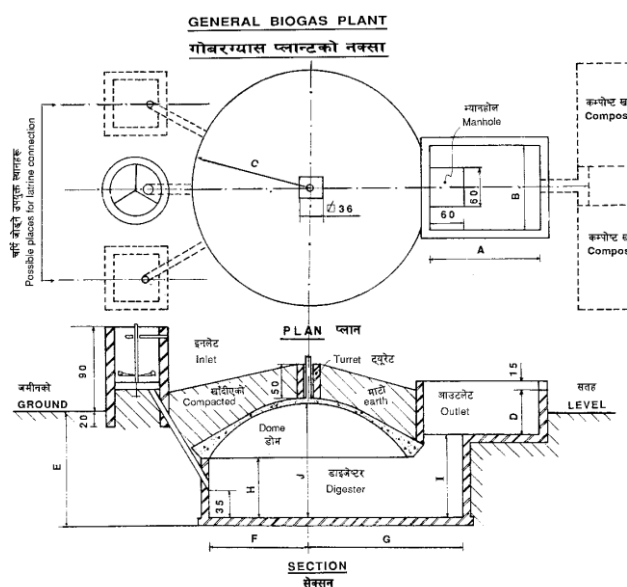


Fig 1: Plan and Section View of Biogas Plant



Fig 2: Biogas Digester in Operation

The PoA contributes towards the sustainable development on following aspects:

1. Environmental Benefits:

- Prevents deforestation and forest soil degradation caused by the harvest of firewood.
- Prevents the emission of Greenhouse Gases from non-renewable biomass and that attributable to the anaerobic decomposition of the cattle dung that would have been left over for decay.
- The byproduct of the digestion process, bio-slurry, can be used as fertilizer which maintains the soil quality and avoids the possible soil pollution due to use of synthetic fertilizers.
- Improves indoor air quality by avoiding the smoky kitchen environment due to firewood use.

2. Social Benefits:

- Reduces the drudgery in women caused due to tasks related to firewood collection and utensil cleaning and thereby saves time.

- b. Improves sanitation by triggering the toilet construction at household level as the toilet can also be used as feeding material for the biogas digesters.
- c. Improves the technical skills of the masons and other construction workers working in the sector.

3. Economic Benefits:

- a. The use of the bio-digesters at households makes the households self-reliant on the energy for cooking and thereby saves the investment for energy sources in long run.
- b. The jobs created by the sector help in the increased economic activity locally and nationally.
- c. The bio-slurry produced from the digestion process saves the investment required to source synthetic fertilizers.

This demonstrates that the PoA contributes positively towards sustainable development.

The digesters implemented from 22nd June 2007 onwards are eligible for inclusion in Biogas PoA. Until now, four CPAs are included in the Biogas PoA and the inclusion of the fifth CPA is ongoing. The implementation until FY 2016/17 is already planned. The implementation status and further plan of implementation is presented in table below:

Fiscal Year	Target	Remarks	Fiscal Year	Target	Remarks
2007/08	14,884	Actual	2012/13	22,112	Actual (NRREP)
2008/09	19,479	Actual	2013/14	26,000	Planned (NRREP)
2009/10	21,158	Actual	2014/15	26,000	Planned (NRREP)
2010/11	20,056	Actual	2015/16	26,000	Planned (NRREP)
2011/12	18,584	Actual	2016/17	26,000	Planned (NRREP)
			2017/18 onward		TBD (Post NRREP)

Contact:

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Post Box No.: 14364
www.aepc.gov.np
email: neelam.rijal@aepc.gov.np
Tel: +9771-5539390, 5539391
Fax: +9771-5542397, 5539392

iii. Invitation tracking table

[See Toolkit 2.6 and Annex J]

Category	Organisation (if	Name of	Way of	Date of	Confirmation
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code	relevant)	invitee	invitation	invitation	received. Y/N
A	N/A	Biogas Users	Public Invitation	08 Aug 2014	N
B	District Energy, Environment and Climate Change Section (DEECCS)	Sanjiv Kumar Lal	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	Y
B	District Energy, Environment and Climate Change Section (DEECCS)	Sunita Sharma	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	Y
B	Local Development Office, Kavre	Prem Prasad Bhattarai	Invitation Letter	16 Jul 2014	Y
B	Women and Children Welfare Office, Kavre	Laxmi Shah	Invitation Letter	16 Jul 2014	Y
B	District Forest Office, Kavre	Krishna Bdr. Thapa	Invitation Letter	16 Jul 2014	Y
B	District Agriculture Development Office, Kavre	Sahadev Prasad Humagai n	Invitation Letter	16 Jul 2014	Y
B	District Agriculture Development Office, Kavre	Ramchan dra Pokhrel	Invitation Letter	16 Jul 2014	Y
C	Designated National Authority/ Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (DNA/MoSTE)	Akhanda Sharma	Invitation Letter/Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	Y
D	Aatmanirvar Vegetable Production Cooperative		Invitation Letter	16 Jul 2014	Y
D	Resource Management and Rural Empowerment	Gokul Gautam	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	Y

	Centre (REMREC)				
D	Netherlands Development Organization (SNV)	Saroj Rai	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
D	Netherlands Development Organization (SNV)	Keshav C. Das	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
D	German Development Bank (KfW)	Shanker Pandey	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
D	German Development Bank (KfW)	Niraj Subedi	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
D	WWF Nepal	Ugan Manandhar	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
D	Centre for Rural Technology-Nepal (CRT-N)	Subarna Prasad Kapali	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
D	Centre for Rural Technology-Nepal (CRT-N)	Rajan Thapa	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
D	Biogas Sector Partnership Nepal (BSP/N)	Balaram Shrestha	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	Y
D	Nepal Biogas Promoters Association (NBPA)	Bishnu Belbase	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
E	Gold Standard	Neha Rao	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
E	Gold Standard	Ayushi	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
F	Carbon Watch	Deepak Mawandi	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
F	HELIO International	Helene O'Connon Lajambe	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
F	Non-Conventional Energy and Rural Development	Sathiajot hi Kamaraj	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N

	Society (NERD SOCIETY Coimbatore)				
F	Winrock International India	Debajit Das	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
F	Mercy Corps	David Nicholson	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
F	REEEP	Katrin Harvey	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
F	World Vision Australia	Dr. Dean C Thomas	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
F	WWF International	Bella Roscher	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
F	Greenpeace International	Deepak Mawandi a	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
F	Winrock International Nepal	Binod Prasad Shrestha	Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
F	National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)		Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N
F	Environment and Public Health Organization (ENPHO)		Email invitation	16 Jul 2014	N

Please explain how you decided that the above organisations/ individuals are relevant stakeholders to your programme. Also, please discuss how your invitation methods seek to include a broad range of stakeholders (e.g. gender, age, ethnicity).

All the invitees of the LSC are directly or indirectly affected by the project. AEPC as CME tried to include all different groups of affected people. There was no restriction in participation since the participation was sought through public notice. Similarly, for easy access to information, the invitation was also publicly posted in the notice boards of different relevant Government organizations (please see below v. Text of public invitation). Additionally, the invitation was published in a local newspaper.

Gold Standard local experts and supporter NGOs were informed and invited through E-mail according to GS's requirement. The stakeholders who could not make their presence in the LSC meeting will be provided with the LSC meeting report.

iv. Text of individual invitations

[See Toolkit 2.6 and Annex J]

Email Text:

Dear Madam/Sir,

It is our pleasure to invite you to join the **Local Stakeholder Consultation Meeting and Design Consultation** for CDM PoA titled “Nepal biogas support program – PoA” which is seeking retroactive registration under the Gold Standard.

The mission of the PoA is the dissemination of household biogas plants (20,000 under each CPA). It also seeks to encompass other important socio-economic-environmental benefits that are an integral part of the biogas program, such as improved kitchen environment, reduction in drudgery of women, improvement of health and sanitation, and improvement in the quality of the employment etc. The main objective of the consultation is to share the details of the proposed project and solicit opinions from you for making the project more meaningful and contributive to the communities. During meeting, we will discuss about its social and environment impacts to the communities due to this project implementation.

Further, we would like to request your valuable suggestions/comments on the design framework of the PoA through email. The organizational structure is attached. You may comment, for example, on the possibility of existing biogas projects participating in the PoA. Please send your feedback within one month after receiving this email, otherwise you may also comment during the physical meeting. If you would like to comment via email, please use the attached Design Consultation Feedback Form attached with this email and send it back to us until 17 August 2014.

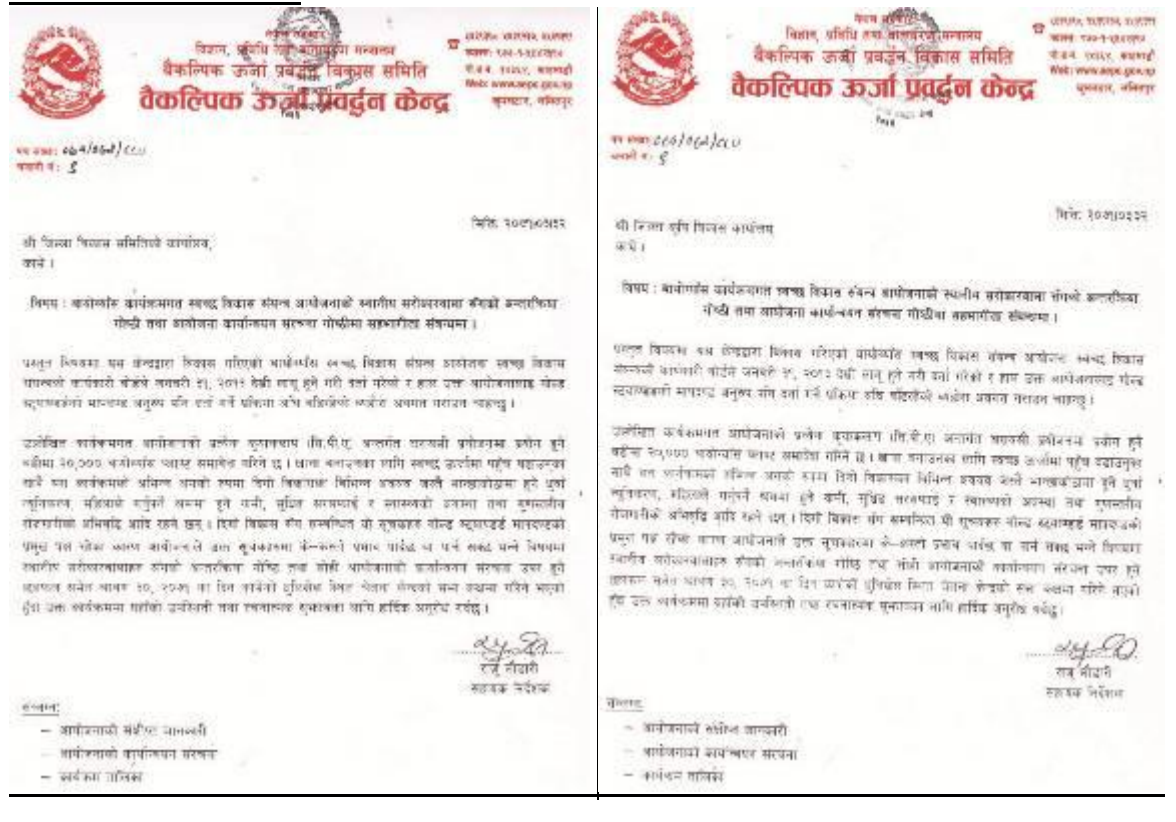
The physical stakeholder consultation will be held on **15 August 2014** at meeting hall of **Chetana Kendra, Dhulikhel, Kavrepalanchowk**. We are looking forward to receiving you for the physical meeting. During meeting we welcome your comments and in case if you could not attend the meeting you can still send us your comments by other means of communication. Your comments are always welcome. We will be happy to provide you with further details of the PoA, if required. Further, we would like to kindly request you to acknowledge the receipt of this invitation and to confirm your participation by **August 07, 2014**. We would like to request you to make use of the attached “**REPLY FORM**”. However, even if you are not available for the LSC, we will provide you with the consultation report and other details about the consultation feedback process after the LSC and DC are concluded.

Attached with this mail are the following documents for your review and feedback.

- Non-technical summary of the PoA (Nepali and English)
- Reply form
- Design Consultation Feedback Form
- PoA Design Framework
- Stakeholder Consultation Meeting Agenda

Looking forward having fruitful discussion during the consultative meeting.

Invitation Letter Sent:



v. Text of public invitations

[See Toolkit 2.6 and Annex J]

Local Stakeholders Consultation and Design Consultation Workshop for Nepal Biogas Support Program-PoA

Public Notice

Publication Date: 08 Aug 2014

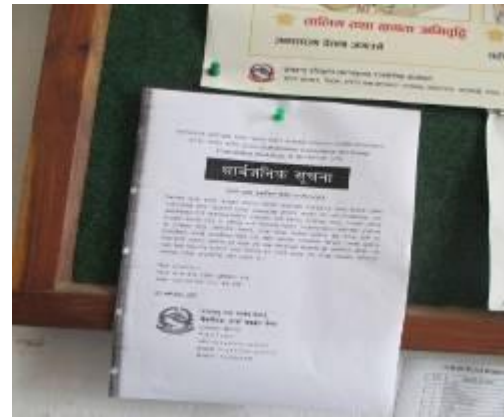
Nepal Biogas Support Program –PoA, developed by Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPC) is seeking a retroactive Gold Standard registration. In this regards, it is important to discuss the impact of the PoA in different elements of sustainable development. Hence, AEPC would like to request the participation from the local stakeholders (biogas users/user committees, biogas company, representatives of local organizations working in energy etc) in the local stakeholder consultation meeting and the design consultation of the PoA which is going to be held at the following date, time and venue.



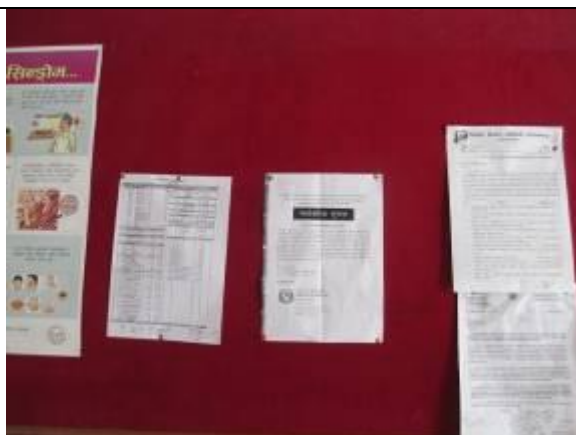
Newspaper announcement



Invitation Posted in notice board of District Agriculture Development Office



Invitation Posted in notice board of District Development Office



Notice Pasted at a Public Place



**Invitation Posted in notice board of
Women and Children Welfare Office**

B. 2. Description of other consultation methods used

The individuals/entities who have missed out the physical meeting shall be provided with the LSC meeting report to solicit their feedback.

SECTION C. CONSULTATION PROCESS

C. 1. Participants' in physical meeting(s)

i. List of participants

Please attach original participants' list (in original language) as Annex 1.

Participants list					
Date and time: 15/08/2014 from 9:00 to 17:00 PM					
Location: Dhulikhel, kavre, Nepal					
S/ No	Name of participant, job/ position in the community	Male/ Female	Organisation (if relevant)	Contact details	Category Code
1	Prem Prasad Bhattarai	M	Office, District Development Committee, Kavre	9851067610	B
2	Laxmi Shah	F	Women and Children Welfare Office	9851195870	B
3	Krishna Bdr. Thapa	M	District Forest Office	9841406415	B
4	Agni Prasad Adhikari	M	Panchkhal Municipality	9843636367	B
5	Sahadev Prasad Humagain	M	District Agriculture Development Office	9851010831	B
6	Ramchandra Pokhrel	M	District Agriculture Development Office	9840066107	B
7	Kedarnath Ghimire	M	User, Panchkhal-11	9841868635	A
8	Kedar Prasad Sapkota	M	Aatmanirvar Vegetable Production Cooperative	9841247058	D
9	Narayan Prasad Sapkota	M	Aatmanirvar Vegetable Production Cooperative	9841486015	D
10	Yadav Prasad Koirala	M	User, Rabi Yopi-1	9849819867	A
11	Ram Chandra Gautam	M	User, Rabi Yopi-1	9843184370	A
12	Hari Krishna Sapkota	M	Aatmanirvar Vegetable Production Cooperative	9841805748	D
13	Kedar Chaulagain	M	User, Rabi Yopi-1	9813821518	A
14	Badri Prasad Adhikari	M	User, Panchkhal-11	9841905585	A
15	Ram Bdr. Khadka	M	Aatmanirvar Vegetable Production	9841892175	D

			Cooperative		
16	Dhruba Regmi	M	Aatmanirvar Vegetable Production Cooperative	9849826142	D
17	Uddhab Prasad Chaulagain	M	Janautthan Vegetable Production Cooperative	9851083739	D
18	Govinda Prasad Timilsina	M	User, Panchkhal-11	9841109269	A
19	Bishnu Sapkota	M	User, Panchkhal-11	9841368275	A
20	Bimala Sapkota	F	User, Panchkhal-11	9841107746	A
21	Rupa Pyakurel	F	User, Panchkhal-11	9841892223	A
22	Chet Kumari Sapkota	F	User, Panchkhal-11	-	A
23	Debaki Sapkota	F	User, Panchkhal-11	9849702506	A
24	Shanta Sapkota	F	User, Panchkhal-11	-	A
25	Nirjala Sapkota	F	User, Panchkhal-11	9843228687	A
26	Devi Sapkota	F	User, Panchkhal-11	9841144278	A
27	Gita Sapkota	F	User, Panchkhal-11	-	A
28	Shiva Prasad Gautam	M	User, Rabi Yopi-1	9841043099	A
29	Sita Sapkota	F	User, Panchkhal-11	-	A
30	Mira Sapkota	F	User, Panchkhal-11	9849318830	A
31	Rukmini Sapkota	F	User, Panchkhal-11	-	A
32	Gokul Gautam	M	REMREC	9851157786	D
33	Balaram Shrestha	M	BSP-Nepal	9851036752	D
34	Sanjib Kumar Lal	M	DEECCS, Kavre	9851064545	B
35	Sunita Sharma	F	DEECCS, Kavre	9841430619	B
36	Raju Laudari	M	AEPC	9851125430	Organ izer
37	Kedar Nath Bajgain	M	User, Devitar	9808300401	A
38	Akhanda Sharma	M	DNA/MoSTE	akhanda10@yahoo.com	C
39	Neelam Sharma Rijal	M	AEPC/NRREP	neelam.rijal@ae pc.gov.np	Organ izer
40	Prem Kumar Pokhrel	M	AEPC/NRREP	prem.pokhrel@ae pc.gov.np	Organ izer
41	Uttam Prasad Jha	M	AEPC/NRREP	uttam.jha@aep c.gov.np	Organ izer
Total		28 (M) 13 (F)			

Comments accompanying Annex 1

ii. Evaluation forms

[See Toolkit 2.6.1, 2.6.2 and Annex J]

Please add at least 4-5 representative samples in English.

Please attach original evaluation forms (in original language) as Annex 2.

SN	How do you like the meeting?	2. What are the things you liked in this project?	What are the things you did not like in this Project?
8	Good	Time saving and clean environment is good part of this programme.	Everything is good.
9	I liked this programme.	It saves wood, no smoke and time saving.	I did not see any negative of this programme, everything is good.
13	Information regarding Biogas users is very useful and good.	The objective of this programme is good and environment friendly.	In Nepal especially in high hills and cold area it was not implemented, can we build the biogas plant that is suitable to that area?
16	Good.	Good for health, beneficial, smokeless and easy to clean.	Nothing but mosquitos.
24	I see this programme should be extended rapidly.	-Positive environmental impact. -Saving expenses especially in fuel, wood, direct positive impact in the health.	Nothing negative.

Comments accompanying Annex 2

Looking the evaluation forms revealed that the participants liked the meeting. Most of the participants cited that the meeting was good. Yet there were some specific reasons with other participants i.e. some of them felt the program effective since there was good representation of the biogas digester users, some felt that the program was informative, some felt that the program was oriented towards awareness raising of the participants,

among other points mentioned. The participatory approach adopted to conduct the program was also well acclaimed by the participants.

Regarding negative comments, further extension to the cold regions was claimed. Due to different conditions of fermentation, however, other types of digesters would be needed which are currently not included in the technology eligible PoA. This was also discussed during the meeting (point 9).

There was also mentioning of mosquito breeding. There is however no evidence that biogas plants increase mosquito breeding, it is probably more related to cattle raising. In any case, there are government campaigns going on to create awareness about protection against mosquitos, for example by using nets.

However, to summarize the program was well received by the.

C. 2. Pictures from physical meeting(s)

[See Toolkit 2.6 and 2.6.1]



Group picture of participants



Prototype Demonstration



Experience sharing from user



Remarks from Chairman



Participant sharing her view on sustainability indicator



Discussion on sustainability indicator



Filling the SD matrix



Discussion on PoA Design

C. 3. Outcome of consultation process

i. Minutes of physical meeting(s)

Please ensure that you include a summary of the meeting as well as all comments received. Please also include discussion on Continuous Input / Grievance Expression methods; comments, agreement or modifications suggested by Stakeholders.

[See Toolkit 2.6, 2.6.1, 2.6.2, Annex W and Annex J]

The local stakeholder consultation (LSC) meeting was organized on 15/08/2014 at Dhulikhel, Kavre. The meeting attended by 41 participants including the representatives of the local government authority, representatives from the National Service Provider for the Biogas Program, Regional Renewable Energy Service Center, and the biogas users. The LSC was conducted in the meeting hall of Chetana Kendra, Dhulikhel, Kavre. The meeting was organized in the following sequence:

- 1. Introduction:** The meeting started at 9:30 am. Mr. Prem Kumar Pokhrel from AEPC/NRREP facilitated the introductory session of the meeting. The participants from different organizations and the biogas beneficiaries introduced themselves.
- 2. Opening of the meeting:** The Local Development Officer Mr. Prem Prasad

Bhattarai (Kavre, District) chaired the meeting, The other guests from various district level organizations included:

- Ms. Laxmi Shah, District Women and Children Welfare Office, Kavre
- Mr. Krishna Bdr. Thapa, District Forest Office, Kavre
- Mr. Agni Prasad Adhikari, Panchkhal Municipality, Kavre
- Mr. Sahadev Prasad Humagain, District Agriculture Development Office, Kavre
- Mr. Ramchandra Pokhrel, District Agriculture Development Office, Kavre

3. Welcome and Objectives of Meeting:

After having the Chair for the meeting Mr. Raju Laudari, Assistant Director, AEPC welcomed all the participants in meeting and encouraged them for a lively and interactive participation. He briefed about the scope of works of AEPC and different technologies being promoted by AEPC. He also briefly discussed regarding subsidy for different technologies being deployed by AEPC. He further highlighted that the Nepal Biogas Support Program-PoA is seeking retroactive Gold Standard registration. He also discussed the importance of Local Stakeholders' Consultation in Gold Standard process. At last but not least, highlighted the following objectives of the meeting to the participants:

- To inform the stakeholders about the PoA
- To inform the PoA implementation framework to the stakeholders
- To identify the impacts of the PoA on the sustainability development indicators
- To identify the monitoring approaches for different sustainability development indicators

Explanation of the PoA: The stakeholders were informed about different aspects of the PoA during LSC. Mr. Neelam Sharma Rijal, Program Officer, AEPC/NRREP and Mr. Uttam Prasad Jha, National Adviser, AEPC/NRREP jointly presented it. During the discussion, the transfer of GS CER ownership in exchange for subsidized biogas plants was explained clearly to all participants by the CME. Participants agreed on this transfer, just as it is currently done by signing the biogas user contracts.

Presentation from Mr. Rijal focused on the following:

- Introduction of the PoA (including the timelines, thresholds and emission reduction)
- Inclusion criteria of Biogas Digesters in the PoA
- Introduction to the Gold Standard and Process related to it
- Role of PoA in sustainable development

Presentation by Mr. Jha focused on the following:

- Introduction biogas plant and factors affecting the biogas formation
- Comparative scenario with and without biogas
- Uses and benefits of biogas
- Objectives and targets of AEPC executed National Rural and Renewable

Energy Program

- Opportunities and challenges in biogas sector
- Actors involved in biogas promotion
- Subsidy allocation and subsidy administration
- Quality control, monitoring and basis of monitoring for the household biogas digesters
- Grievance handling

4. Prototype Demonstration: Mr. Balaram Shrestha from Biogas Sector Partnership Nepal (BSP/N) led this session. He demonstrated a small model of a biogas digester prototype and discussed different components of it (please see the picture above in C.2 pictures from physical meeting). Since the biogas users were also present at the meeting, in order to make the meeting more participatory he sought a volunteer from the users to explain about the different components of the biogas digester

5. Questions and Clarifications: The questions and clarification requests from the participants were attended at the time of the respective presentation. There was a specific time dedicated for the participants to raise their query on different aspects of the project. However, the most of the questions were related to the subsidy, grievance handling, quality control and quality check. The representative questions asked by the stakeholders and response given to them are summarized below:

- ***It was noted during the presentation that we have sign agreement with AEPC regarding the emission reduction, but we haven't seen anybody from AEPC coming to us and signing the said agreement?***

The so-called emission reduction right transfer agreement is already included in form that is filled-up during the completion of the plant. Hence, the company person who completed digester construction did that for AEPC.

- ***How does AEPC ensure the quality of the digesters constructed?***

First of all AEPC pre-qualifies the biogas companies and select the ones that have proven capacities to work as biogas construction companies. AEPC has prepared a quality manual for the construction of the biogas digesters that lists out the quality parameters for constructing different size of biogas digesters. The quality indicators indicated in the quality manual is verified during monitoring of the biogas digesters by the BSP-Nepal. Apart from BSP-Nepal's monitoring, there is a third party (consulting companies selected by AEPC, can differ from year to year) monitoring as well. These mechanisms ensure the quality of the digesters constructed.

- ***How do you check the misconduct of the biogas companies?***

The biogas companies are monitored through a random monitoring process from the BSP-Nepal. Further, AEPC now has provisioned a third party monitoring where the third party assigned by AEPC randomly monitors the digesters constructed by the biogas companies and the ones already inspected by BSP-Nepal.

- ***Is there any mechanism of penalizing the biogas companies that are found to be breaching the rules of AEPC? If so how?***

Yes, there is mechanism of penalizing the biogas companies if any case of breach is proven. The wrongdoing is confirmed during the monitoring of the BSP team and third party. If the digesters are not found to be constructed up to standard, the company will be penalized with the equivalent sum resulting from the all digesters. The penalty is calculated as the product of (100%/Sample %) and number of verified deviations and subsidy of each plant. Further depending upon the severity of the misconduct the company may be removed from the pre-qualified list.

- ***Do you have any mechanism in place through which you support the biogas plants that has expired the warranty period?***

Yes, one phase of Plant Rehabilitation and Efficiency Improvement Project (PREIP) has been completed and during this, the biogas digesters constructed before 2001 were rehabilitated. AEPC is planning to implement the next phase of PREIP. Hence, there is mechanism in place through which the biogas digesters with expired warranty period will be supported.

6. Exercise on Sustainable Development and its Monitoring:

As per the requirement of the Gold Standard, a blind sustainable development exercise was conducted with the participation of all the stakeholders present in the meeting. The matrix was projected and the indicators were explained and discussed one by one. This session was very interactive and mainly the biogas users' participated to dig out the impact of the technology on the particular sustainable development indicator. For each indicator, first different opinions were heard, and then it was decided on the final scoring in plenary.

After scoring each SD indicator, the monitoring approaches were discussed wherever applicable. While discussing the monitoring of SD indicators, also the local level government officials and the representatives from regional renewable energy service centre and BSP/N showed very active participation.

7. Discussion on PoA design:

The design of the PoA was discussed as described in the DC report.

8. Discussion of Continuous Input/Grievance Mechanism:

This part was highly interactive where the users presented their queries regarding the post installation services and grievance handling mechanism. Details are described in section E.2.

9. Feedback/comments from Participants

At the end of physical meeting, evaluation forms were distributed to be filled in by the participants. At the same time, the floor was open for feedback and comments from participants. Two points were brought up by the participants and shortly discussed:

It was asked for a possible extension of biogas dissemination to cold regions. It

was clarified that another model of digester would be needed for such cases, due to lower temperatures; and that this different type of digester was not applicable under the current version of the PoA.

Another comment was made on the involvement up to Village Development Committees (VDC) in the meeting and programme as such. It was responded that, getting deeper into the administrative units from District to VDC, it is likely that there will not be any further value addition for the program. Since there is no human resource allocation at the VDC level to deal with the matters pertaining to the program it is not likely that involvement of VDC will have same level of impact as of DDC.

10. Remarks from DNA Representative:

Mr. Akhanda Sharma represented the Designated National Authority (DNA). He summarized the meeting as very interactive. He also remarked that the Biogas program in Nepal is the most successful from the perspective of emission reductions. He highlighted that the WWF implemented Biogas GS VER project is selling the emission reductions at premium rate. He also discussed the PoA to be the most suitable from GS perspective, as there is lot of sustainable development perspectives. Finally, he thanked the organizers for organizing such an interactive program.

11. Closure of the Meeting:

After completing the activities mentioned above, chairperson of the meeting summarized the meeting. He highlighted the importance of the biogas digesters in reducing deforestation. He also contextualized the technology in relation to the women empowerment. He further highlighted the benefit of this technology. According to him, it saves time and that can be utilized in productive activities. Hence, the technology indirectly contributed for the women empowerment. He further discussed that the District Development Committee (DDC) has assigned certain level of funds to subsidize the toilet construction for marginalized groups and he discussed the linkage between the PoA and the prevailing plan at DDC, Kavre. Finally, he wished AEPC a successful and fast GS registration and announced the closing of meeting.

ii. Minutes of other consultations

N/A

iii. Assessment of all comments

[See Toolkit 2.6]

Stakeholder comment	Was comment taken into account (Yes/ No)?	Explanation (Why? How?)
AEPC should extend the period of after sales services to be provided by the biogas companies	Yes, but did not lead to PoA changes	The period of after sales service has already been extended from 3 years to 4 years.
AEPC should introduce new type of digesters in the program based upon the suitability of the digesters according to different ecological zones.	Yes, but did not lead to PoA changes	Until now the PoA has recognized only GGC 2047 model as eligible under the PoA. Further under the subsidy policy and delivery mechanism as well it is only the GGC 2047 model that is recognized for subsidy. Hence to consider the comment into account, the government should first define the eligibility of other models of digesters in the subsidy stream, then only there will be scope to include them in the PoA.
AEPC should ensure the involvement up to Village Development Committee (VDC) which till now is only restricted up to the District Development Committee.	Yes, but did not lead to PoA changes	Getting deeper into the administrative units from District to VDC, it is likely that there will not be any further value addition for the program. Since there is no human resource allocation at the VDC level to deal with the matters pertaining to the program it is not likely that involvement of VDC will have same level of impact as of DDC.

iv. Revisit sustainability assessment (to be assessed per Methodology/technology/practice)

Are you going to revisit the sustainable development assessment?	Yes	No
Please note that this is necessary when there are indicators scored 'negative' or if there are stakeholder comments that can't be mitigated	☐	✓ ☐

Give reasoning behind the decision

The sustainability matrix was populated with due participation from the stakeholders and none of the indicators was indicated as negative. Further, no any deviation for any SD indicator in comparison with the draft GS Passport was noted during LSC.

v. Summary of alterations based on comments

If stakeholder comments have been taken into account and any aspect of the programme modified, then please discuss that here.

SECTION D. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT
(To be done per Methodology/technology/practice)

D. 1. Own sustainable development assessment (to be done per Methodology/technology/practice)

i. 'Do no harm' assessment

Safeguarding principles	Description of relevance to my project	Assessment of my project risks breaching it (low, medium, high)	Mitigation measure
1. The project respects internationally proclaimed human rights including dignity, cultural property and uniqueness of indigenous people. The project is not complicit in Human Rights abuses.	The project respects human rights, as participation is voluntary. It respects personal freedom and liberty. Conclusion: Safeguarding principle is not relevant to the project, no mitigation measures are necessary. Host country commitment to UN conventions on Human Rights: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 14 May 1991¹ International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 14 May 1991²	low	N/A
2. The project	As the biogas units will be	low	N/A

¹ https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-3&chapter=4&lang=en

² https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-4&chapter=4&lang=en

does not involve and is not complicit in involuntary resettlement.	constructed in the households' compound, there will be nobody forced to resettle. Conclusion: Safeguarding principle is not relevant to the project, no mitigation measures are necessary.		
3. The project does not involve and is not complicit in the alteration, damage or removal of any critical cultural heritage	As the biogas units will be constructed in the households' compound, there will be no damage of cultural or religious heritage. Conclusion: Safeguarding principle is not relevant to the project, no mitigation measures are necessary.	low	N/A
4. The project respects the employees' freedom of association and their right to collective bargaining and is not complicit in restrictions of these freedoms and rights	All employees have freedom of association and right to collective bargaining. Conclusion: Safeguarding principle is not relevant to the project, no mitigation measures are necessary. Host country commitment to international conventions on labour standards and child Rights: Nepal is member of the International Labour Organisation ³	low	N/A
5. The project does not involve and is not complicit in any form of forced or	AEPC and the other involved parties do not complicit in any form of forced or compulsory labour. All employees	low	N/A

³ <http://www.ilo.org/kathmandu/lang--en/index.htm>

compulsory labour	offer their services on a voluntary basis and are free to quit the services at any time without a menace or penalty. Conclusion: Safeguarding principle is not relevant to the project, no mitigation measures are necessary. Host country commitment to international conventions on labour standards and child Rights: Convention on the Rights of the Child 26 Jan 1990⁴		
6. The project does not employ and is not complicit in any form of child labour	AEPC and the other involved parties do not employ children. Conclusion: Safeguarding principle is not relevant to the project, no mitigation measures are necessary. Host country commitment to international conventions on labour standards and child Rights: Convention on the Rights of the Child Nepal is member of the International Labour Organisation	low	N/A
7. The project does not involve and is not complicit in any form of discrimination based on gender, race, religion, sexual	All interested farmers, regardless of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation can participate in the project. The only condition is the possession	low	N/A

⁴ https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=IV-11&chapter=4&lang=en

orientation or any other basis.	of at least one cow, for practical reasons. Conclusion: Safeguarding principle is not relevant to the project, no mitigation measures are necessary. Host country commitment to international conventions on labour standards and child Rights: Convention on the Rights of the Child Nepal is member of the International Labour Organisation		
8. The project provides workers with a safe and healthy work environment and is not complicit in exposing workers to unsafe or unhealthy work environments.	As on any construction site, there is risk of accidents or injuries, but the construction works are simple without specific sources of danger. The operation of the biogas units is safe, during the past years, no incidents have been reported. Conclusion: As a mitigation measure to prevent accidents, workers will receive proper training. Protective equipment such as gloves will be distributed. This will be monitored. Host country commitment to international conventions on labour standards and child Rights: Convention on the Rights of the Child Nepal is member of the International Labour organisation	medium	N/A

9. The project takes a precautionary approach in regard to environmental challenges and is not complicit in practices contrary to the precautionary principle.	The biogas units will be fed with cow dung and a certain amount of water. There are no other planting or agricultural activities included, as well as no usage of chemicals. Safeguarding principle is not relevant to the project; the natural conditions in the project area are suitable for using biogas.	low	N/A
10. The project does not involve and is not complicit in significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats, including those that are (a) legally protected, (b) officially proposed for protection, (c) identified by authoritative sources for their high conservation value, or (d) recognized as protected by traditional local communities.	The project activity does not lead to any conversion or degradation of natural habits. Contrary the project itself reduces deforestation and contributes to the protection of forestry, water and soil resources. The biogas will be a renewable and clean energy source. The slurry obtained after fermentation is less polluting than the initial manure; moreover it will be used as fertilizer and this usage will be monitored. Safeguarding principle is not relevant to the project, no mitigation measures are necessary.	low	N/A
11. The project does not involve and is not complicit in corruption.	The project structures are not sensitive to corruption. Since the project is implemented directly through the local companies, and since local materials are used, the project implementation does not imply a	low	N/A

	significant risk of corruption. Host country commitment to international conventions on corruption: Nepal has signed the United Nations Convention against corruption on 10 Dec 2003⁵ Conclusion: Safeguarding principle is relevant to the project, but only at very low level. No mitigation measures are necessary.		
Additional relevant critical issues for my project type	Description of relevance to my project	Assessment of relevance to my project (low, medium, high)	Mitigation measure
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

⁵ https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XVIII-14&chapter=18&lang=en

ii. Sustainable development matrix of the PPs

Indicator	Mitigation measure	Relevance to achieving MDG	Chosen parameter and explanation	Preliminary score
Gold Standard indicators of sustainable development	If relevant, copy mitigation measure from 'Do No Harm' assessment, and include mitigation measure used to neutralise a score of '-'	Check www.undp.org/mdg and www.mdgmonitor.org Describe how your indicator is related to local MDG goals	Defined by project developer	<u>Negative impact:</u> score '-' in case negative impact is not fully mitigated, score '0' in case impact is planned to be fully mitigated <u>No change in impact:</u> score '0' <u>Positive impact:</u> score '+'
Air quality		Positive impact on MDGs 4.1 (Under-five mortality rate) and 4.2 (Infant mortality rate), since indoor air pollution will be avoided through smokeless biogas, reducing respiratory diseases and thereby mortality. Moreover, a positive impact on MDG 5 (reducing maternal mortality rate) can be expected, by improving the health situation.	Reduction of indoor air pollution. Parameter: Users' perception on smoke.	+
Water quality and quantity		Positive impact on MDGs 7.8 (use of improved drinking water sources) and 7.9 (use of improved sanitation facilities). The fermentation of animal and human waste will reduce pollution of water bodies; the provision of biogas may enable households to sterilize their water. Sanitation will be improved by the construction of toilets in combination with many of the biogas plants.	No direct impact, but slightly positive impact through fermentation and use of slurry; but impact too small for a positive score.	0

		The daily usage of water with a biogas unit of approx. 30 litres will not have a negative impact since water is not a limited resource in the project area.		
Soil condition		Positive impact on MDG target 7 (ensure environmental sustainability): Soil quality improvement through slurry utilization. Nutrient loops are closed by the use of digester effluent, improving soil fertility and avoiding eutrophication of the soil and water bodies.	Slurry is used as fertilizer, but impact probably too small to justify a positive score.	0
Other pollutants		N/A	Not applicable	0
Biodiversity		Possible positive impact on MDG 7 (environmental sustainability), by reducing pressure on natural habitats due to reduced deforestation.	No direct impact.	0
Quality of employment	Mitigation measure of the safeguarding principle 8, includes training for masons and supervisors, including a manual with special safety instructions as well as distribution and usage indications for safety equipment such as gloves.	Creation of qualified jobs in biogas plant construction and maintenance. MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. The CME shall also mention whether the project will provide vocational training programs to employees, medical insurance, etc.	Masons are trained and get qualitatively good jobs. Parameter: Trainings reports.	+
Livelihood of the poor		Positive impact on MDG 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger): Households save time and money otherwise be spent on fuelwood procurement.	Improved living conditions by offering sanitation services where toilets are constructed together with biogas plants. Parameter: Number of toilets constructed.	+

Access to affordable and clean energy services		Positive impact on MDG 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger): Households save time and money otherwise be spent on fuelwood procurement.	Biogas is clean and its usage is cheaper than burning fuelwood. Parameter: Number of biogas constructed.	+
Human and institutional capacity		N/A	No direct impact	0
Quantitative employment and income generation		Positive impact on MDG 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger): Income through job creation for masons,	A large number of jobs is created. Parameter: Number of jobs created	+
Balance of payments and investment		N/A	Not applicable	0
Technology transfer and technological self-reliance		N/A	Not applicable	0

Comments accompanying own sustainable development matrix

D. 2. Stakeholders Blind sustainable development matrix

Indicator	Mitigation measure	Relevance to achieving MDG	Chosen parameter and explanation	Preliminary score
Gold Standard indicators of sustainable development	If relevant, copy mitigation measure from 'Do No Harm' assessment, and include mitigation measure used to neutralise a score of '-'	Check www.undp.org/mdg and www.mdgmonitor.org Describe how your indicator is related to local MDG goals	Defined by Coordinating and Managing Entity	<u>Negative impact:</u> score '-' in case negative impact is not fully mitigated, score '0' in case impact is planned to be fully mitigated <u>No change in impact:</u> score '0' <u>Positive impact:</u> score '+'
Air quality			Reduction in kitchen smoke Monitoring: Users' perception from survey	+
Water quality and quantity			Toilet construction reduces open defecation and contributes in safeguarding water resources. Monitoring: Number of toilets constructed.	+
Soil condition			Use of slurry as fertilizer. Monitoring: Users' response on use of slurry as manure.	+
Other pollutants			Not applicable	0
Biodiversity			No direct impact. However, biogas contributes forest conservation and hence the biodiversity.	0
Quality of employment			Trained manpower. Monitoring: Trainings for the masons involved for biogas	+

			construction.	
Livelihood of the poor			Some impact through reduced fuelwood expenses, but difficult to measure.	0/+
Access to affordable and clean energy services			High positive impact. Monitoring: Installation records.	+
Human and institutional capacity			No direct impact	0
Quantitative employment and income generation			Positive impact since many jobs are created. Monitoring: Number of jobs created.	+
Balance of payments and investment			Not applicable	0
Technology transfer and technological self-reliance			Not applicable	0

Comments resulting from the stakeholders blind sustainable development matrix

Give analysis of difference between own sustainable development matrix and the one resulting from the blind exercise with stakeholders. Explain how both were consolidated.

There were only slight differences in the blind sustainable development exercise and own sustainable development matrix. Certain things however evolved during the sustainable development exercise during LSC. From the exercise the stakeholders pointed the positive contribution of the biogas digesters for the indicators *Water quality and quantity* and *soil condition*; they argued that it could be monitored by the number of toilets constructed and use of slurry as fertilizer. Regarding *livelihood of the poor*, several participants also voted for a positive scoring, arguing with reduced fuelwood expenses. However when discussing monitoring, this was found very complicated. The positive impact of toilet construction had been mentioned under *water quality* by the stakeholders, while PPs regarded it under *livelihood of the poor*.

There were also voices in favor of giving a positive score on *biodiversity*, since forests are conserved which also conserves biodiversity.

D. 3. Consolidated sustainable development matrix

Indicator	Mitigation measure	Relevance to achieving MDG	Chosen parameter and explanation	Preliminary score
Gold Standard indicators of sustainable development	If relevant, copy mitigation measure from 'Do No Harm' assessment, and include mitigation measure used to neutralise a score of '-'	Check www.undp.org/mdg and www.mdgmonitor.org Describe how your indicator is related to local MDG goals	Defined by Coordinating and Managing Entity	<u>Negative impact:</u> score '-' in case negative impact is not fully mitigated, score '0' in case impact is planned to be fully mitigated <u>No change in impact:</u> score '0' <u>Positive impact:</u> score '+'
Air quality		Positive impact on MDGs 4.1 (Under-five mortality rate) and 4.2 (Infant mortality rate), since indoor air pollution will be avoided through smokeless biogas, reducing respiratory diseases and thereby mortality. Moreover, a positive impact on MDG 5 (reducing maternal mortality rate) can be expected, by improving the health situation.	Reduction of indoor air pollution. Parameter: Users' perception on smoke.	+
Water quality and quantity		Positive impact on MDGs 7.8 (use of improved drinking water sources) and 7.9 (use of improved sanitation facilities). The fermentation of animal and human waste will	No direct impact, but slightly positive impact through fermentation and use of slurry; but impact too small for a positive score.	0

		reduce pollution of water bodies; the provision of biogas may enable households to sterilize their water. Sanitation will be improved by the construction of toilets in combination with many of the biogas plants. The daily usage of water with a biogas unit of approx. 30 litres will not have a negative impact since water is not a limited resource in the project area.		
Soil condition		Positive impact on MDG target 7 (ensure environmental sustainability): Soil quality improvement through slurry utilization. Nutrient loops are closed by the use of digester effluent, improving soil fertility and avoiding eutrophication of the soil and water bodies.	Slurry is used as fertilizer. Parameter: Use of slurry as fertilizer by biogas users.	+
Other pollutants		N/A	Not applicable	0
Biodiversity		Possible positive impact on MDG 7 (environmental sustainability), by reducing pressure on natural habitats due to reduced deforestation.	No direct impact.	0
Quality of employment	Mitigation measure of the safeguarding principle 8, includes training for masons and supervisors, including a manual with special safety instructions as well as distribution and usage indications for safety equipment such as gloves.	Creation of qualified jobs in biogas plant construction and maintenance. MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. The CME shall also mention whether the project will provide vocational training programs to employees, medical insurance, etc.	Masons are trained and get qualitatively good jobs. Parameter: Trainings reports.	+

Livelihood of the poor		Positive impact on MDG 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger): Households save time and money otherwise be spent on fuelwood procurement.	Improved living conditions by offering sanitation services where toilets are constructed together with biogas plants. Parameter: Number of toilets constructed.	+
Access to affordable and clean energy services		Positive impact on MDG 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger): Households save time and money otherwise be spent on fuelwood procurement.	Biogas is clean and its usage is cheaper than burning fuelwood. Parameter: Number of biogas constructed.	+
Human and institutional capacity		N/A	No direct impact	0
Quantitative employment and income generation		Positive impact on MDG 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger): Income through job creation for masons,	A large number of jobs is created. Parameter: Number of jobs created	+
Balance of payments and investment		N/A	Not applicable	0
Technology transfer and technological self-reliance		N/A	Not applicable	0
Justification choices, data source and provision of references (A justification paragraph and reference source is required for each indicator, regardless of score)				
Air quality	Air quality will improve due to the installation of the biogas digester as it eliminates the solid biomass from kitchen. http://www.sandeeonline.org/uploads/documents/publication/786_PUB_policy_brief_31.pdf . Hence, a positive score was given to this indicator and it will be monitored from the perceptual survey.			
Water quality and quantity	Biogas will have indirect effect in the water quality and quantity. Construction of the biogas digester promotes the construction of toilet at household. Toilet construction reduces the open defecation and this in turn contributes towards improving water quality. Hence, a positive score was given for this indicator. It will be monitored by asking if a toilet was constructed in the annual surveys.			
Soil condition	Bio-slurry resulting from the use of the biogas can be used as fertilizer for agricultural purpose and contributes in improving the soil condition. Hence, a positive score was given to this indicator. It will be monitored during annual surveys seeking the information from the respondent whether they are using bio-slurry in the agriculture field or not.			
Other pollutants	There is no evidence to suggest that this type of projects relates to any other pollutants.			

Biodiversity	There is no direct relation between the use of biogas and biodiversity conservation. Use of biogas reduces the consumption of the firewood and hence the firewood thus reduced improves forest biomass stock and hence the biodiversity. However, this relation cannot be linked directly to the use of the biogas digester hence a neutral score is given.
Quality of employment	Masons involved in the construction of the biogas digester are provided with proper training. Hence, the training leads to improvement in the quality of employment.
Livelihood of the poor	The biogas digester doesn't directly contribute to the any income generating activities. Hence, a neutral score has been assigned to this indicator.
Access to affordable and clean energy services	Biogas directly contributes to the clean energy service since the biogas is cleaner form of energy. Hence, the score has been assigned as positive and this will be monitored through the annual progress of biogas.
Human and institutional capacity	Biogas digester doesn't directly contribute to the betterment of the human and institutional capacity. Hence, a neutral score has been assigned.
Quantitative employment and income generation	Biogas digester directly helps in income generation of the masons and supervisors involved in biogas construction. Hence, any progress in biogas plant construction contributes for the income generation and this indicator has been given a positive score. This indicator will be monitored through the number of biogas digesters constructed.
Balance of payments and investment	Not applicable
Technology transfer and technological self-reliance	Not applicable

References can be an academic or non-academic source, such as a university research document, a feasibility study report, EIA, relevant website, etc.

SECTION E. SUSTAINABILITY MONITORING PLAN

(To be done per Methodology/technology/practice)

E. 1. Discussion on Sustainability monitoring Plan

[See Toolkit 2.4.3 and 2.6.1]

Discuss stakeholders' ideas on monitoring sustainable development indicators. Do people have ideas on how this could be done in a cost effective way? Are there ways in which stakeholders can participate in monitoring?

Possibilities of monitoring were discussed with the stakeholders for each SD indicator. They thought that indoor air quality could be assessed by asking households using the biogas plants about their impression on smoke reduction, while technical measurement would be too sophisticated and expensive. They agreed that the positive impacts of forest conservation due to reduced fuelwood consumption would also be difficult to monitor and to relate to the PoA itself. However they agreed that water quality through toilet construction, and the use of slurry as fertilizer for soil improvement could be monitored.

Also job quality and quantity seemed good parameters to monitor to the stakeholders, through records of trainings held for masons and quantification of jobs created. As for livelihood of the poor, participants of the LSC suggested to qualitatively assess improved income of biogas plant installers and local biogas plant users by asking them.

E. 2. Discussion on continuous input / grievance mechanism

[See Annex W]

Discuss the Continuous input / grievance mechanism expression method and details, as discussed with local stakeholders.

This part was highly interactive where the users presented their queries regarding the post installation services and grievance handling mechanism. During the presentation of Mr. Uttam Prasad Jha, the users sought the information regarding the steps taken by AEPC for the continuous improvement of the program. Further, the part of quality assurance to be dealt by AEPC was also discussed during the meeting. The major part of the presentation was in an interactive basis where the biogas users asked about the post installation services to be provided by the biogas company, cost of accessories and further improvements to better address the user grievances. The most important questions raised were:

- Q: How can we post our grievances regarding the functioning of our biogas digesters?
A: This can be done through the contacts in the table, grievance will be recorded by AEPC and forwarded to the responsible companies. contacts in table, toll free phone line
- Q: Are companies liable to provide the service even after the after sales service period is expired?
A: There are not liable after period of 4 years (extended from 3 to 4 recently), but companies have to provide service against payment.
- Q: Is there a mechanism in place through which we can post our grievance directly to authorities at higher level?
A: Yes, the toll free service line leads directly to AEPC, AEPC will then deal with the biogas companies or the corresponding units.
- Q: How do you take action on the companies if they are found to be doing some misconduct?
A: After a complaint is received by AEPC, AEPC will verify and, if misconduct persists, penalize companies. They may even lose license to construct digesters under the program.
- Q: How can we ensure that the digester constructed is of good quality?
A: All digesters have to be constructed according to the standardized construction manual with corresponding standard drawings. The quality is then regularly monitored, and if companies are found to provide bad services, they can be excluded.

	Method Chosen (include all known details e.g. location of book, phone,	Justification
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	number, identity of mediator)	
Continuous Input / Grievance Expression Process Book	Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPC) Khumaltar Heights, Lalitpur Post Box No.: 14364 www.aepc.gov.np	The CME office is publicly disclosed and opened to all beneficiaries.
Telephone access	Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPC) toll free number: 16600144566 Nepal biogas promoters association Central Office Kathmandu: 01- 5535116 Nepal biogas promoters association regional offices: 1. Pokhara: 061-526785 2. Butwal: 071-551514 3. Itahari: 025-5817745 4. Nepalgunj: 081-528066 5. Dhangadi: 091- 527379 6. Chitwan: 056- 521749	These offices directly received the input.
Internet/email access	Neelam.rijal@aepc.gov.np	Neelam Sharma Rijal Programme officer Alternative Energy Promotion Center (AEPC) Khumaltar Heights, Lalitpur Post Box No.: 14364
Nominated Independent Mediator (optional)	N/A	N/A

The Continuous input / grievance mechanism should be implemented for all activities within the PoA as per feedback received during PoA LSC. All issues identified at the activity level (CPA/VPA) during the crediting period through any of the Methods shall have a mitigation measure in place. The identified issue should be discussed in the revised activity Passport and the corresponding mitigation measure should be added to sustainability monitoring plan in the activity Passport.

SECTION F.	DESCRIPTION OF THE DESIGN OF THE STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK ROUND
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[See Toolkit 2.11]

The stakeholder feedback round on the design of the PoA will be conducted after uploading the LSC report.

ANNEX 1. ORIGINAL PARTICIPANTS

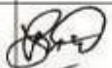
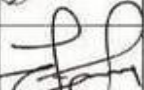
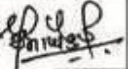
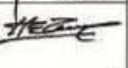
बैकलिपिक ऊर्जा प्रकटन केन्द्र

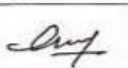
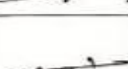
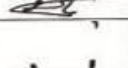
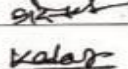
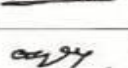
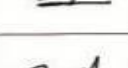
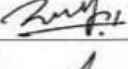
कार्यक्रमगत बायोमैस स्वच्छ विकास संयोजन आयोजना सम्बन्धमा स्थानिय सरोकारवाला समको परामर्श गोपि

मिति: २०७९/०४/२०

स्थान: चेतना केन्द्र, मुम्लेल, काभ्रे
जुम्ले

उपस्थिती विवरण

क्र.सं.	नाम	लिंग		संस्थाको नाम र ठेगाना	सम्पर्क (फोन/ईमेल)	दस्ताखत
		महिला	पुरुष			
१	श्री प्रेम प्रसाद भट्टराई		✓	स्वाविम. नि. वि. स. काभ्रे	९८५१०६७६१०	
२	उमेश शर्मा	✓		प्र.न.वि.को, गन्धोकोट	९८५११९५८१०	
३.	कुमारी द. शर्मा		✓	जि.स.न.काभ्रे, काभ्रे	९८४१४०६४१५	
४.	आमिना प्रसाद अधिकारी		✓	डभिङ्गी फाउन्डेशन, पोखरा न.पा.	९८४३६३६३६७	
५.	सहदेव प्र. कुमारी		✓	जिल्ला कृषि विकास कार्यालय, काभ्रे (परिवर्त कृषि विकास अधिकारी)	९८२९०९०८३१	
६	राजेश्वर पौडेल		✓	जिल्ला कृषि विकास कार्यालय (कृषि प्रसार अधिकारी)	९८४००६६९०६०	
७	वेदनाथ शर्मा		✓	उपभोक्ता पौनःप्राप्त ९९	९८४९८९९९३२	

क्र.सं.	नाम	लिंग		संस्थाको नाम र ठेगाना	सम्पर्क (फोन/ईमेल)	दस्ताखत
		महिला	पुरुष			
८६	वेदनाथ सापका		✓	अर्थी. श्री आम्बिका तहसी उत्पादक लक्ष्मी संस्था	९८४९२२६०५८	
८७	नारायण प्रसाद सापका		-	स. सापका	९८४९४८५०९५	
८८	पद्म प्रसाद कोइराला		✓	रविओपी ९. उपभोक्ता	९८४९८९८९६६	
८९	राजेश्वर शर्मा		✓	रवि ओपी ९ उपभोक्ता	९८४९९९४३६६	
९०	श्री अल्लुनाथ कार्वा		✓	श्री अल्लुनाथ कार्वा संस्था	९८४९८०४६५८	
९१	वेदनाथ चौलागाई		✓	रवि ओपी ९ उपभोक्ता	९८४९८२१५१८	
९२	बडी प्रसाद अधिकारी		✓	जान्जली ९९ वेदना	९८४९९०५५८५	
९३	श्री व. शर्मा		✓	आ.स. निर्माता न. क. ३. वेदना	९८४९८९२१६५	
९४	धुव शर्मा		✓	आ.स. निर्माता न. क. ५. न. क. ५. वेदना ५-	९८४९८९९९४२	
९५	उमेश प्रसाद चौलागाई		✓	जान्जली तहसी उपभोक्ता संस्था निर्माता ओपी	९८४९८३६३५	

क्र.सं.	नाम	लिंग		संस्थाको नाम र ठेगाना	सम्पर्क (फोन/ईमेल)	दस्ताखत
		महिला	पुरुष			
१६	मेखिन्द्र प्र. तिमल्सेना		✓	उपभोक्ता/ पौचखाल म.पा. ११ बेलगाँव	९८५१-१०६२६९	मेखिन्द्र
१७	मिष्ठा सापकोटा		✓	" " " "	९८५१ ३६८२६२	मिष्ठा
१८	विमला सापकोटा	✓		" " " "	९८५१ १०६६४६	विमला
२०	रुपा व्याकुल	✓		" " " "	९८४१ ८९२२९३	रुपा
२१	चैतकुमारी सापकोटा	-		" " " "		चैतकुमारी
२२	देवी सापकोटा	✓		✓	९८५१ १०२५०६	देवी
२३	शान्ता सापकोटा	✓		उपभोक्ता बेलगाँव, पौचखाल	९८५३ -	शान्ता
२४	निर्मला सापकोटा	-		उपभोक्ता बेलगाँव, पौचखाल	९८५३ १२४६८७	निर्मला
२५	देवि सापकोटा	✓		" "	९८४१ १०४४८६	देवि
२६	गिता सापकोटा	-		" "		गिता

क्र.सं.	नाम	लिंग		संस्थाको नाम र ठेगाना	सम्पर्क (फोन/ईमेल)	दस्ताखत
		महिला	पुरुष			
२७	रमणप्रसाद शर्मा		✓	रविशोपी - १	९८४१०४३०९९	रमणप्रसाद
२८	सिता सापकोटा	✓		पौचखाल ११ उपभोक्ता		सिता
२९	मिर्जा सापकोटा	✓		" "	९८४३३१२२३०	मिर्जा
३०	रुक्मीणी सापकोटा	✓		" "		रुक्मीणी
३१	गुरुलाल शर्मा		✓	पुनर्निर्माण, २, काभ्रे एभरेस्ट	९८५११५६६८६	गुरुलाल
३२	बलराम शर्मा		✓	विप्लव पी. नेपाल	९८४१०३६०५२	बलराम
३३	संजीव कुमार लाल		✓	अ.वि.स. काभ्रे	९८४१०६४५४५	संजीव
३४	सुनिता शर्मा	✓		" ", पुनर्निर्माण	९८५१५३०६१९	सुनिता
३५	राज्य लोडारी		✓	AEDC	९८५१२५६३०	राज्य
३६	केदार लाल शर्मा		✓	देवीचौर	९८०२३००४०५	केदार

[illegible]

ANNEX 2. ORIGINAL EVALUATION FORMS

- in separate documents uploaded to the registry -