

Renewable electricity kathmandu

Distributed renewable energy, most notably solar rooftops coupled with battery ...

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Energize Nepal is currently supporting 11 new research on Renewable Energy. Out of these 11 new research projects, 6 projects are almost at the end of the planned research and is in the edge to develop new products (Turgo runner and Algal fuel pellets) and services (energy efficient building design guidelines). Two projects are in peak of their research and are expected to develop new products and services by end of next year. Whereas, 3 projects have just completed their inception phase.

For next phase ENEP has target to involve total of 20 institutions in research activities, as of now already 33 institutions/stakeholders have been engaged in research in the sector.

For nearly three decades, the government has been promoting alternative energy other than hydropower to serve the populations that are out of the national electricity grid.

As a result, nearly a million solar home systems were installed, micro and small hydropower projects with combined capacity of 37.7 MW were developed, and 439,547 domestic biogas plants were set up, besides a few solar mid-grid systems, according to the Annual Report 2021-22 of the Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPC).

Alternative energy is being promoted under the AEPC, which was established in November 1996.

Alternative energy has been useful especially in lighting homes in remote areas.

"Until 2017-18, just around 20 percent of the population was using these alternative sources of energy made available with the help of the AEPC and its partners," said Nawa Raj Dhakal, acting executive director of the AEPC.

But in the past few years, many previously unserved areas have been connected to the national grid. "Now, 95 percent of the population has access to electricity," said Dhakal. "Of them, 91 percent is connected to the national power grid while four percent is still relying on alternative energy sources other than hydropower."

Referring to a study conducted in 2019 with support from the Asian Development Bank, Dhakal said that 99 percent of the population will have access to the national power grid by 2030.

Along with an increased grid connectivity, alternative energy projects are being forgotten. Reports have



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emerged of the sorry state of community-run micro-hydro projects in several districts after the advent of grid electricity.

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Web: <https://kary.com.pl/contact-us/>

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

