SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MODEL OF LOCAL SOLUTIONS
ROAD TO SUSTAINABILITY

Date: 28th March 23,
Time: 2.00 -3.30 PM India Time.
Registration link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Pjr8LBfeTLyQ0ZIKeX82g

Supporting organizations:
- CANSAS
- INFORS
- South Asia
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- Grameen Shakti
- DIB
- INFORS
- CISU

Speakers:
- Jyoti Awasthi: Managing Director at Satat Sampada Pvt. Ltd.
- Manuari Shrestha: Enterprise development and vocational skills development expert
- Abdul Arif: Project Manager, Grameen Shakti, Bangladesh
- Dennis Mombauer: Director, Research & Knowledge Management, SLYCAN Trust

Moderator:
- Sohel Ahmed: Managing Director, Grameen Shakti
Webinar
Social Enterprise Model of Local Solutions - Road to Sustainability
28th March, 2023

Approaches to overcome barriers in energy-based livelihoods of women entrepreneurs in Nepal

Manjari Shrestha
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ENERGIA/Hivos
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Nepal’s context

Out of 30 million population, over 50% are women

More than 30% households headed by women

About 45% small scale enterprises operated by women
Women in energy-based enterprises and its benefits

Productive use of energy can be defined as “modern energy services for activities that enhance income and welfare.”

- Improved performance of entrepreneurs resulting in better productivity and increased quality of products/services
- Increased employment opportunities and better impact in communities with promotion of energy intensive local resource based enterprises
- Cash circulation, enhanced economic activities – vertical and horizontal linkages and business opportunities creation
- Increased revenue in Electricity Service Providers – better operation and regular maintenance of systems resulting in resilient systems
Challenges faced by women entrepreneurs

• Time management – between family and business
• Limited opportunities compared to men
• Lack of appropriate supports from family and friends
• Fear of failure
• Less capacity to take risk
• Difficulty in accessing credit due to lack of collateral
• Limited education, knowledge and skills
• Lack of trust on women’s ability
Challenges in enterprises

- Enabling Environment
- Finance
- Market/Marketing
- Business/Enterprise
- Support Services
- Technology
- Physical Infrastructure
Challenges in energy-based enterprises

Accessibility

Affordability

Acceptability

Availability

Appropriateness and Ease of Operation
Approach adopted

Understand the status and ecosystem of women entrepreneur

Identify and enhance capacities of local organization

Collaborate with relevant ecosystem actors

Empower women entrepreneurs

Foster entrepreneurial ecosystem
378 women entrepreneurs expanded their existing enterprise and 99 established new enterprise – with 595 additional employment

About $1.44 M loan amount mobilized with equity investment of $1.47 M mostly through subsidized loan

More than 70% women entrepreneurs adopted energy efficient technologies to improve productivity

Women entrepreneurs were supported for forward and backward linkages. Mostly expanded in local market.

More than 90% women entrepreneurs reported that they are now empowered and can take business decisions on their own

Leveraged different supports from ecosystem stakeholders amounting to more than $85,000
Key success factors and lessons learned

- Robust selection mechanism of women entrepreneurs and engagement with family members for committed supports
- Comprehensive training packages integrating agency-based empowerment
- Energy management (including adoption of efficient, safe appliances)
- Post-training support including business counselling and facilitation for business support services
- Capacity building of local institutions should be initiated from the start
- Fostering partnerships among entrepreneurial ecosystem stakeholders should be integrated in all activities
Thank you !