

Steering Committee Meeting

for

Regional Collaboration for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Technology

**American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon
September 7-10, 2004**

1. Introduction

The week-long Regional collaboration and technical workshops, held at AUB during the week of April 26-30, 2004 focused on developing a partnership for regional collaboration in energy efficiency and renewable energy technology¹. One of the main outcomes of the workshop is the establishment of a Regional Collaboration Partnership or Action Plan among the participating institutions to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies for environmental sustainability and economic development, as outlined in Appendix A. Another major outcome of the regional workshop is the UNDP² support to ERG/AUB as a GNESD³ Center of Excellence in the amount of US\$ 10,000 to further enhance the exchange of information, promote experience sharing and solicit the support and commitment of key decision makers to reforms in energy policies for energy access and alleviation of poverty. The planned Steering Committee Meeting to further develop the regional collaboration action plan also fits well with UNDP support for GNESD members in developing countries dedicated to strengthening their capacity aimed at stimulating policy dialogue across regional and national stakeholders working on energy and development issues and effectively conducting knowledge networking and outreach activities.

The September meeting, in addition to its regular agenda, will also be used to prepare for a policy dialogue workshop in December 2004 that will take place in parallel to the Steering Committee meeting.

2. Meeting Outcomes

¹ N. Ghaddar, "Beirut regional Collaboration Workshop on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Technology", Activity Report on Enhancing Environmental Sustainability through Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Technology, Project No. S-ECAPE-02-GR-130 (MA), Citizen Exchange Program, US Department of State, May 2004.

² United Nations Development Programs

³ Global Network on Energy For Sustainable Development (www.gnesd.org) which is a UNEP (United Nations Environment Program) facilitated knowledge network of developing world Centres of Excellence and network partners, renowned for their work on energy, development, and environment issues.

- 1- Develop and agree upon the framework and bylaws on mechanism of cooperation among the participating universities/partners. Report on identified teams in each partner institutions.
- 2- Approve the content of the Regional Steering Committee website and provide information on the framework for each institution.
- 3- Generate the List of potential Partners and energy groups within each country
- 4- Discuss initial findings on energy efficiency and renewable energy technology status for energy policy recommendations. (Each country representative may prepare a note prepare material on energy policy reforms in their country and analysis of policy options and factors that limit their implementation and success)
- 5- Identify activities for each of the priority areas that are identified as: i) database; ii) institutional capacity strengthening; and iii) technology transfer / enhancement / adaptation technologies.
- 6- Prepare the agenda of the December meeting

Steering Committee Meeting on
Regional Collaboration for Energy Efficiency and
Renewable Energy Technology
American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon
September 8-10, 2004
(Bechtel – Engineering Board Room (EBR))

Program

Day 1
Wednesday September 8, 2004

- **9:00 a.m - 9:15 am: Introduction Session**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Welcome Statement & Introduction of members ▪ Explanation of the Meeting Objectives 	N. Ghaddar
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- **9:15 a.m. – 11:30 am: Energy Groups/Teams Structure and Achieved/Proposed Steps towards the Identified Initiatives in the Energy Action Plan**

Moderator from AUB (R. Chedid)

9:15 -9:30 a.m	▪ “Energy Team at JUST and Current Activities”	JUST
9: 30 – 9:45 a.m.	▪ “Palestine Energy Initiatives”	PPU
9:45 – 10:00 a.m.	▪ “Syria Energy Reforms”	Syria
10:00 – 10: 15 a.m.	▪”Saudi Arabia Energy Policies and Reforms”	KFUPM
10: 15 – 10:30 a.m.	▪ “Energy Initiatives in Lebanon”	AUB
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.	General Discussion	

10:00 am – 11:30 a.m.: Coffee Break

- **11:30 – 12:30 hr: Discussion/modifications/Approval of Proposed Bylaws**
- **12:30 p.m.– 2:00 p.m. Main Themes of Collaboration on Energy within Tempus**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Main themes of the collaboration on Energy Efficiency and Renewable technology within Tempus Dr. Elisabeth Kjellsson from Building Physics at the Lunds Institute of Technology and Dr. Dan Gaffner, Technology and Society, Malmo University 	Tempus/Sweden
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Day 2
Thursday September 9, 2004

- **9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.: Discussion and presentations of the proposed activities in priority areas**
- **11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. : Coffee Break**
- **11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.: Discussion of listed activities in each priority areas**
 - a) Proposal to establish a sustainable testing facility for solar thermal and photovoltaic systems in the universities. The unit would serve multipurpose of promoting quality assurance in performance of solar systems, improve market penetration of renewable products, and promote quality research in that area.
 - b) Proposal on impact of adaptive energy policies that address poverty, improvements in quality of life in the region.
 - c) Proposal for Energy Collaborative Program in Education and Research (Joint Proposal to TEMPUS).

Day 3
Friday, September 10 2004

- **9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. : Finalization of Activities and Proposal Approval**
(Moderator from AUB: Prof. Ghaddar)
- **10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. : Coffee Break**
College Hall B1 Lobby
- **10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Preparation for December Meeting/Agenda**
(Moderator from AUB: Prof. Ghaddar)
- **12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. : Lunch**

Appendix A

Regional Collaboration Action Plan

The Action Plan or Partnership for Regional Sustainable Energy Development was developed and finalized during the course of the workshop with a high level of commitment from the participants. The partner institutions and universities have adopted the following mission statement:

To enhance collaboration among universities and other stakeholders in order to promote energy efficiency and appropriate renewable energy technologies for environmental sustainability and economic development.

The institutional arrangement to carry out the mission involved the selection of a lead university to serve as a focal point in each country to coordinate activities among national universities and institutions. Fig. 1 shows a schematic of the institutional set-up. A Steering Committee having one representative from each country was formed and shall be chaired on a rotational basis. It will coordinate activities with international institutions and national focal points. AUB will chair the steering committee initially. So far the institutions involved are:

American University of Beirut
Jordan University of Science and Technology
Palestinian Polytechnic University
Damascus University
King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals
National Energy Education Institute
Notre Dame University
Lebanese American University

The Steering Committee will be initially coordinated by the ERG at AUB and will also have a member representing the technical US advisors:

Florida Solar Energy Center, University of Central Florida
Northwest Energy Education Institute (NEEI), Eugene, Oregon.
PRD Consulting, Pleasanton, California

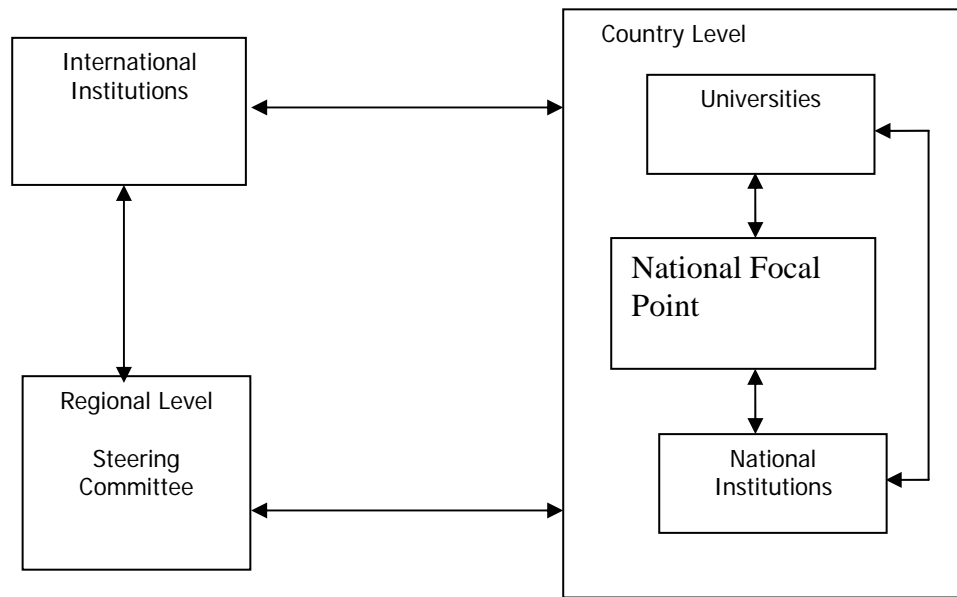


Fig. 1: Institutional Setup.

The proposed initiatives by the partner institutions and universities are:

- 1- Development of a regional database for energy efficiency and renewable energy sources. The expected activities include collecting, refining, and publishing a database related to the energy aspects for solar and weather data, with an expected duration of 3 years.
- 2- Institutional strengthening and capacity building to become an important national/regional resource to support energy planning at the decision-maker level. It is expected that the participating universities will aim to establish low-cost testing facilities at the universities for educational and research purposes. The units will promote capacity building for human resources. This will promote the importance of certification of energy products. Universities should be an active participant in establishing the regulations of the certification standards. The assembly will work on generating a robust energy audit kit that is affordable for use by various engineering offices.
- 3- Technology Transfer / Enhancement / Adaptation for issues related to regional energy, water and the environment. In this initiative, universities will define “appropriate” technology needs based on regional profiles, and will prioritize affordable “ready-to-install” renewable energy technology that can be sought to reduce conventional energy consumption. This initiative aims to accelerate application of appropriate renewable technologies (RETs) and improve public awareness of RET potential and its positive impact.

These steps have been set with deadlines to meet the objectives. The starting point was to form the Steering Committee for Regional Collaboration on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Technology, as stated above. The priority areas are identified as: i) Database; ii)

Renewable Energy Data; iii) Energy Efficiency; iv) Renewable Technologies. The deadlines set for the action items are given in Table 5.

Table 5: Action items for the Regional Collaboration Plan

	Action	Date of Completion
1	Develop a website	August 2004
2	Develop bylaws	September 2004
3	Identify activities within each area	September 2004
4	Form teams in different areas	September 2004
5	Ask for proposals for the identified activities	January 2005
6	Identify Funding Agencies	January 2005
7	Submit proposals	Mandated by Agencies Deadlines