

Capacity building for the state regulators and policy makers in mainstreaming of RETs (renewable energy technologies) in a reformed electricity sector

[Sponsors: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership; Suzlon Energy Limited]

Executive summary

The ongoing reforms in India and legislation like the Electricity Act, 2003 have heralded a paradigm shift in the way the renewables based electricity would be promoted in future. In the context, the policy makers and electricity regulators need to be made aware of the nuances of some successful instruments for promotion of RET based electricity in the developed countries. In particular, the focus would be on instruments like German Feed-in Tariff Law; REO (renewable energy objective) and REC (renewable energy credits) being practiced in Europe; and the lessons learnt, including the policy framework for mainstreaming the renewables based electricity.

To apprise and train the regulators and policy makers in AP (Andhra Pradesh), about the international instruments like German Feed-in Tariff, REC and REO, the project work was carried out in close consultation with the APERC (Andhra Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission).

The project activities included the following.

- Investigating barriers to the renewables based electricity supply.
- Analysing policies that influence the renewables based electricity sector including the Electricity Act 2003.
- Analysing the international instruments/policies and the underlying principles that drive them.
- Developing the policy framework for mainstreaming the renewables based electricity.
- Analysing key dimensions of 'Renewable Portfolio Standards' taking into consideration, the availability of renewable resources in Andhra Pradesh.
- Preparing the framework document and study material, including a case study on a renewable energy project in AP.
- Organizing a conference focusing on 'Renewables and regulatory issues' covering the Indian and European experiences and key learnings.
- Conducting a training-cum-awareness workshop for the regulators and policy makers in Andhra Pradesh.

Outputs

- A comprehensive document titled 'Policy & Regulatory Approaches for Promoting RE Power'
- A document titled 'Renewable Energy Credits: Prevailing Practices'
- 'National conference on renewables and regulatory issues' was organized in New Delhi on 21-22 February 2006
- Training – cum- awareness workshop on 'Regulatory practices in Europe for the promotion of renewable energy based electricity' on 12-13 April 2006.