



- Globally nine per cent of the population – around 1.3 billion people lack access to electricity and 2.7 billion (39 per cent) rely on traditional three stone fires for cooking. Of these, over 95 per cent live in rural areas of South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Grid extension has been the preferred option for increasing electricity access. However, global statistics indicate this will not be sufficient to meet the goal of universal electrification by 2030.
- Renewable energy (RE) technologies provide promising economic and clean options for off-grid electrification, extending access to the underserved through low carbon use.
- Experiences from India and other South Asian and African countries in the RE sector will support entrepreneurship

The project contributes towards increasing access to clean renewable energy through entrepreneurship development, by providing knowledge transfer opportunities for business incubation centers, industry associations and entrepreneurs in South Asia and Africa.

The June 2014 workshop on Sharing of Best practices between India, South Asia and African countries supported:

- Knowledge exchange between entrepreneurs and incubation centers;
- Identification of critical gaps in knowledge, skills and resources of energy access.;
- Outlining of skill enhancement and resources needed to support energy access entrepreneurs; and,
- Creation of a network of incubation centers, entrepreneurs and RE associations.

In Sept 2014, a knowledge sharing workshop with business incubators and entrepreneurs from Asia and Africa is planned to:

- Develop an Action Plan for knowledge sharing and enterprise development
- Develop of a network for influencing policies and practices relating to clean energy access and entrepreneurship development.