1.6 - 2 billion people are without access to electricity

2.4 billion without adequate sanitation

And almost all of these people live in developing countries

2.4 billion relying on traditional biomass for their daily energy services

1.1 billion without safe drinking water



Renewable Energy Resources for Improved Livelihood A Case Study of a Holistic Community Development Project with a Remote and Poor Mountain Village in the Nepal Himalayas

Alex Zahnd Kathmandu University NEPAL Dr. Kimber Haddix McKay University of Montana USA

Nepal's Stage of Development

- 1. Nepal opened its doors for the world only in 1953
- 2. Nepal still counts among the least developed countries.
- 3. Population: 28 Mio. 85 % in rural, remote mountain areas.
- 4. Average annual population growth 2.3 %.
- 5. Overall literacy rates: 40% 60% in cities, but in the remote mountain areas 4% 20% for both, women and men.

Nepal's Stage of Development

- 6. The average income per head per year is 30 US\$ 260 US\$.
- 7. 85% of Nepal's people have no access to electricity.
- 8. Annual per capita electricity consumption (2004) 68.5 kWh.
- 9. 42% of Nepali live below the poverty line, and there is a clear relationship between poverty and access to electricity

Nepal's Renewable Energy Resources

- 10. Nepal's potential hydroelectric power capacity amounts to an estimated 83,000 MW, with 42,000 MW to be technical and economical feasible.
- 11. Nepal's installed total electric generating capacity (September 2005) is 609 megawatts (MW), of which 90%, or 548 MW is hydroelectric, representing just 1.3 %
- 12. Average of 300 sunshine days a year, and daily average solar insulation of 4.5 5.5 kWh/m².

Nepal's Stage of Development

Demands a Holistic working approach, addressing the

- Social
- Physical
- Mental and
- Spiritual

Needs of the people in sustainable ways

Through Holistic Community Development

The holistic community development project activities are implemented in one of the poorest and remotest parts of Nepal, in Humla

Simikot, Humla Alt. 3'000 m.a.s.l Lat. 29° 58' North Long. 81° 49' East

> Kathmandu Alt. 1'337 m.a.s.l Lat. 27° 42' North Long. 85° 22' East

Nepalgunj Alt. 120 m.a.s.l Lat. 28° 03' North Long. 81° 38' East

There is no road to this remote district. In order to reach Humla, the project area (in the north of Nepal) from Nepalgunj (in the south of Nepal), one has to either walk 16 days through the most difficult and harsh Himalayan mountain range, or ...

... one takes a one hour adventurous flight with an old Twin-Otter over and through the mountain valleys up to Simikot in Humla, and then walks for one day. At 30 ° North lat., 81 ° 49' East long., at an altitude of 3,000 meter (9,443 feet) above sea level, lies our High Altitude Research Station (HARS) in Simikot.

Here the research project prototype stoves, solar PV modules, solar water heaters etc. are first installed and tested, re-designed and improved, before they find their final destiny and application in the local communities.

The remote and impoverished mountain communities' needs demand particular requirements from technologies

Technologies must be appropriate, suitable, and apt for a particular situation, and for a particular people group. Sustainability comes before efficiency.

- **Technologies need to be contextualised, to be accepted by the community, to build a strong ownership.**
- They need to aim for better living conditions, to raise the living standard of the people.

4.

The Dhadhaphaya Community, a Needy and Impoverished Village, Requested a Holistic Community Development Project in their Village

South



Karnali, Nepal's longest River

> 3 Days walk to Tibet

West

Dhadhaphaya Village Lat. 30° North, 81.57° East, Altitude 2550 m

North

The village community identifies their needs with the following priorities...

Light in the home Smokeless metal stove Pit latrine near the home Clean drinking water, as well as ...

Hot Water Bathing Center, Greenhouse, and Literacy Classes

Dhadhaphaya Village

The Village situation in 2004:
167 homes, and 1,067 people
No house had light
All homes cooked on open fires
No home had a toilet
All drank dirty river water

Dhadhaphaya Village 29° 59' Northern Latitude, 81° 48' Eastern Longitude, at 2,550 m (8,366 feet) altitude Population (August 2005): 167 homes with 1,067 peoples. One primary school class 1-7, one health post

Light In the Home

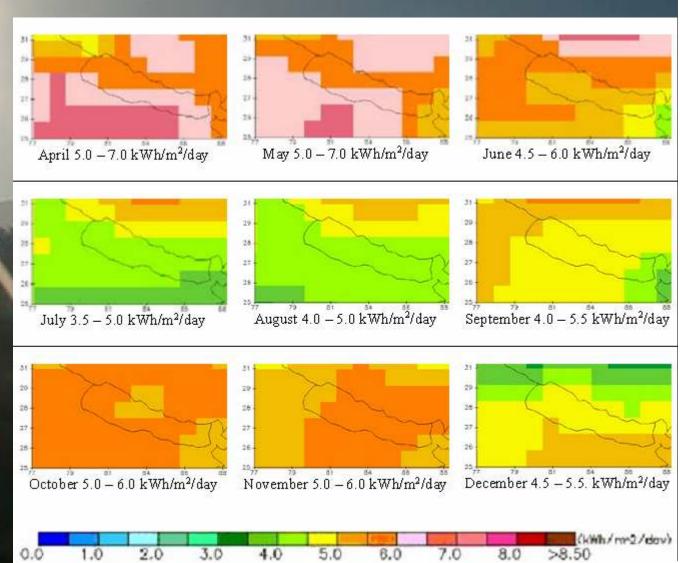
In order to define and calculate the Dhandhaphaya Solar PV Village System properly, the local available solar energy resource (the insolation) has to be known.

This resource is defined through 3 Processes: The NASA satellite data, the Meteonorm software simulation, and measuring the local available solar insolation in Simikot.

NASA Data

Average Annual Daily Solar Insolation for Dhadhaphaya Village, at 30° North, and 2'550 m.a.s.l. is ~ 5.2 kWh/m² on a 30 ° south tilted surface

Average 30° towards Equator Tilted Solar Irradiation from 1983 –1993 for Nepal from NASA (http://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/)



METEONORM Solar Insolation Simulation Software

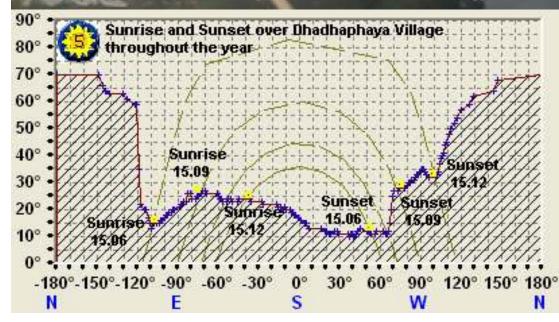
METEONORM Version 5.1

File Import Format Site Basic data Plane Horizon Calculations Language Info.

mann 1		Sta	tus	NK.	Calcu	lation co	mpleted
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Units (User defined)					02		

EDE

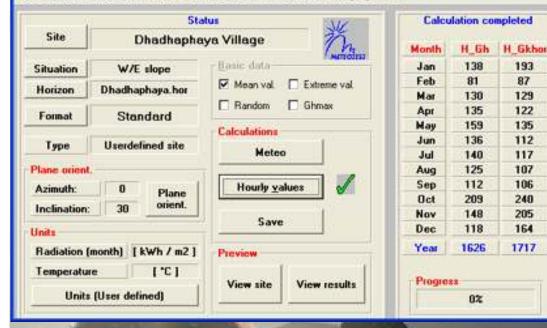
For the Dhadhaphaya Village



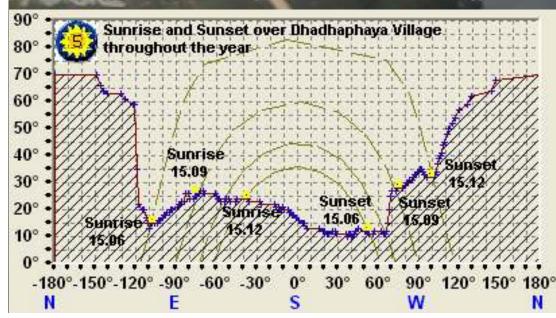
Included in the Simulation is the 360 ° Horizon around Dhadhaphaya

METEONORM Version 5.1

File Import Format Site Basic data Plane Horizon Calculations Language Info.



For the Dhadhaphaya Village



Simulated Dhadhaphaya Solar Insolation Data with Horizon, on a 30° South Tilted Surface

	Site:		Dhadhaphaya Village							
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Legend:

Ta:

H_Oh: Inadiation of global radiation horizontal

H_Dh: Inadiation of diffuse radiation horizontal

H_Gkhor. Irradiation of global rad., tilted plane, with high horizon

H_Dkhor: Inadiation of diffuse rad., tilted plane, with high horizon

H_Bnhor: Irradiation of beam, with high horizon

Ta: Air temperature

Radiation in MAN/m^a

Temperature in [°C]

Gh: Mean values of climate zone

Only 1 station(s) for interpolation

Measured Data in Simikot In order to understand the local available solar energy resource the solar radiation is monitored and recorded in the High Altitude Research Station (HARS) in Simikot, at three different positions.

Horizontal (international Standard)

- 30° South inclined (most used in Nepal)
- 2- axis self-tracking frame (maximum)

Measured Data in Simikot

Pyranometer SPC80 Horizontal

Pyranometer SPC80 30 ° Degree South

Pyranometer SPC80 2-Axis Self-tracking

Measured Data in Simikot

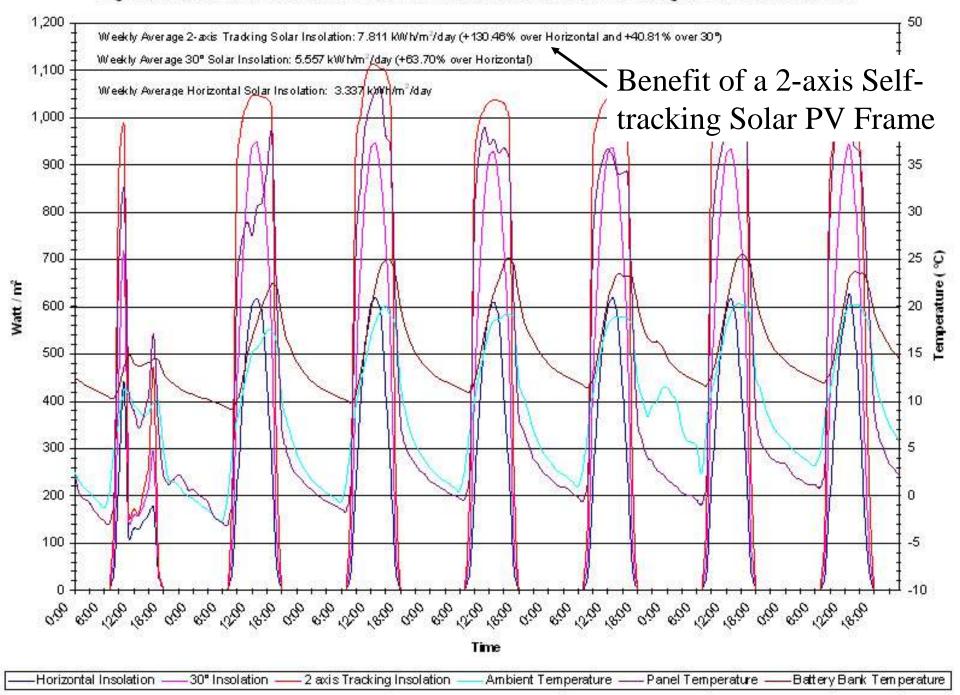
Pyranometer SPC80 Horizontal

Pyranometer SPC80 30 ° Degree South

SPC 80 Pyranometer from SolData Denmark

435: 152mV/(kW/m2)

Pyranometer SPC80 2-Axis Self-tracking Example of one Week Recorded Solar Insolation with three Pyranometers on different surfaces, as well as Ambient, Solar PV Module and Battery Bank Temperature from the 1st – 7th December 2004, in Humla Nepal



High Altitude Research Station Simikot Humla Solar Insolation Data Monitoring 1st - 7th December 2004

Dhadhaphaya Village Solar PV System Definition

15 clusters, each with up to 18 homes with each 3 WLED lights for 5 hours/day, consuming 270 Wh daily.

Dhadhaphaya Village 29° 59' Northern Latitude, 81° 48' Eastern Longitude, at 2,550 m (8,366 feet) altitude Population (August 2005): 167 homes with 1,067 peoples. One primary school class 1-7, one health post

Dhadhaphaya Village Solar PV System Definition

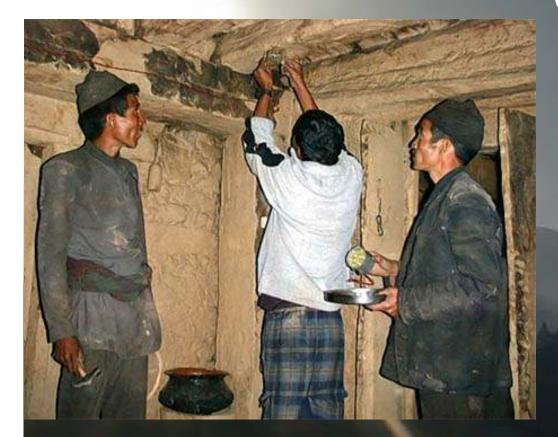


Solar Energy Resource: Daily Average Solar Radiation 4.778 kWh/m² (Meteonorm simulation with high horizon)

Each cluster has one 75 W solar PV module, seasonally adjustable. Up to 5 Days the Battery Bank will provide Energy Independent from the Sun

Dhadhaphaya Village 29° 59' Northern Latitude, 81° 48' Eastern Longitude, at 2,550 m (8,366 feet) altitude Population (August 2005): 167 homes with 1,067 peoples. One primary school class 1-7, one health post

Training and Hands – On Practical Installation



Ten chosen Local People have been Trained to Look After and Maintain the Solar PV Systems

Creating Ownership

Each Household Participates in the Building and Underground Cabling



Thus Dadhaphaya Village has



15 Clusters with each a 75 Watt Solar PV Module powering total 501 x 1 Watt WLED Lights

in 167 Homes

Smokeless Metal Stove in the Home

No Smoke - Less Firewood

No Smoke - Less Firewood

Open Fire Place, the Homes Full of Smoke. The Daily Firewood Consumption is as high as 30 kg – 50 kg, and the Health of Women and Children is in great danger.



No Smoke - Less Firewood

No Smoke insides Homes through a Smokeless Metal Stove. Daily 40% - 50% less Firewood Consumption. Great Improved Health Conditions.

Open Fire Place, the Homes Full of Smoke. The Daily Firewood Consumption is as high as 30 kg – 50 kg, and the Health of Women and Children is in great danger.



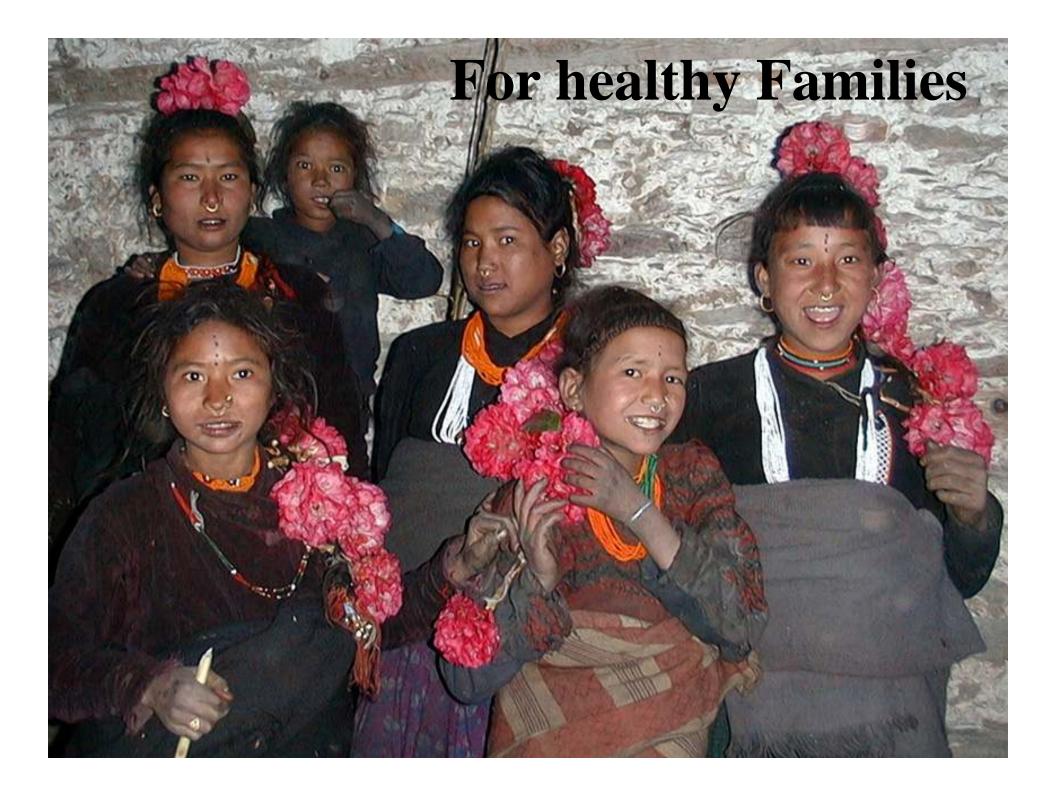
- 1. Improved Health
- 2. Improved Hygiene

Pit

Latrine

3. Cleaner Walking Paths

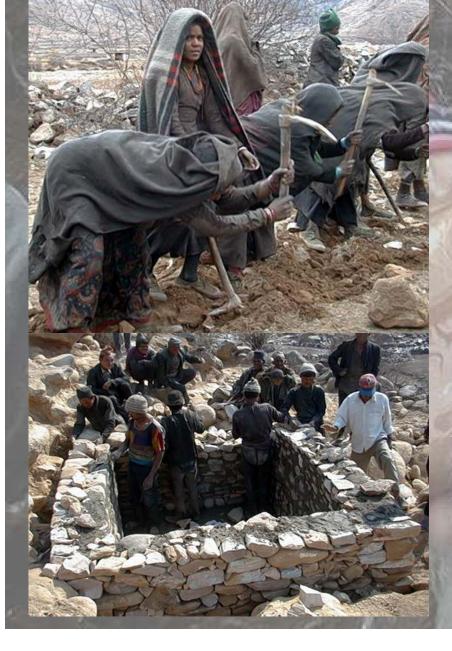
4. Cleaner Fields5. Cleaner Rivers



Pure and Clean Drinking Water

In close partnership with the local community the drinking water system is defined, and planned.

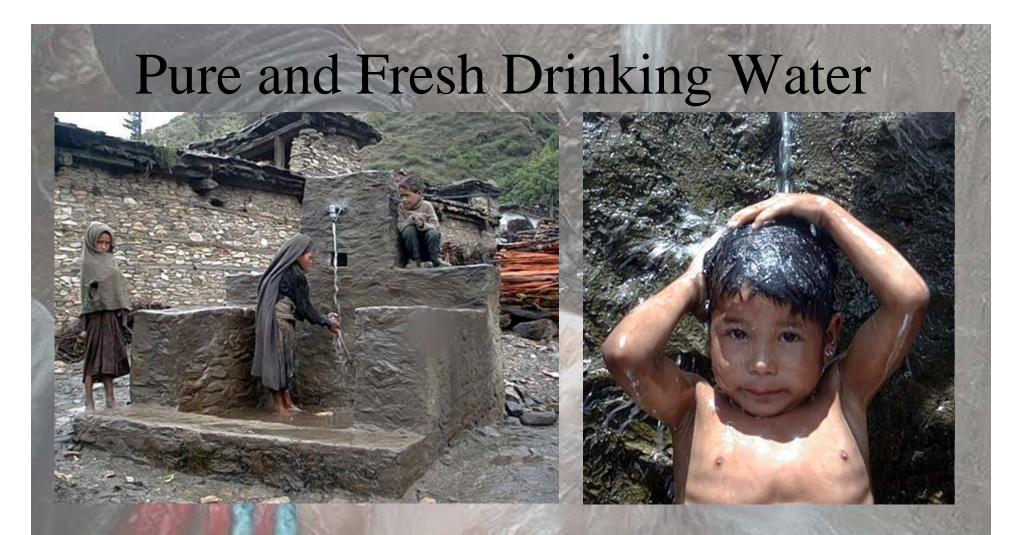
Pure and Clean Drinking Water



In close partnership with the local community the drinking water system is defined, and planned. Where the pipes have to go through, where the water taps have to be, are issues decided by the community. The whole system is built together and enjoyed together . . .



To have participated in the building of the own village drinking water system increases also the interest to keep it maintained and running.



To have participated in the building of the own village drinking water system increases also the interest to keep it maintained and running.





Thus the Basic Issues to Address in a Holistic Community Development Project in the impoverished Nepal Himalayas is ...



Water

Vater

Light

Pit Latrine

Stove

PLUS

High Altitude Solar Water Heater Bathing Center

First High altitude Solar Water Heater Prototype since 2003 under test

Hot Water

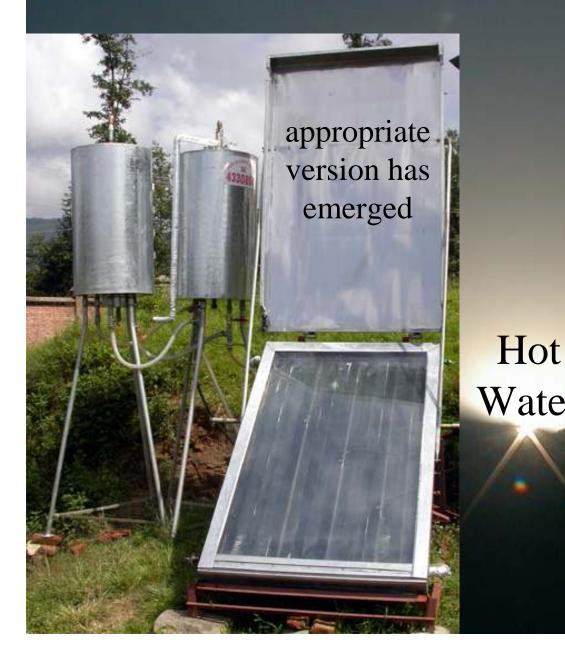
> H ot Water Outlet T-type Thermocouple

Cold Water Inlet RTD Thermocouple

Insolation RTD Thermocouple

4 RTD Thermocouples

High Altitude Solar Water Heater Bathing Center



Followed by improved versions and tests, till the final . . .



For Increased, and More Nutritious Food

Greenhouse

For Increased, and More Nutritious Food

With the local materials wood and stones, and UV stabilised plastic from Kathmandu for the winter months, a suitable greenhouse . . .

So that now from previous 4-5 months vegetables per year, the local people can grow vegetables up to 10 months per year.

.... can be built all through local labour and people.

So that now from previous 4-5 months vegetables per year, the local people can grow vegetables up to 10 months per year...

... improving the diet and thus the health of adults and in particular their small children enormously.

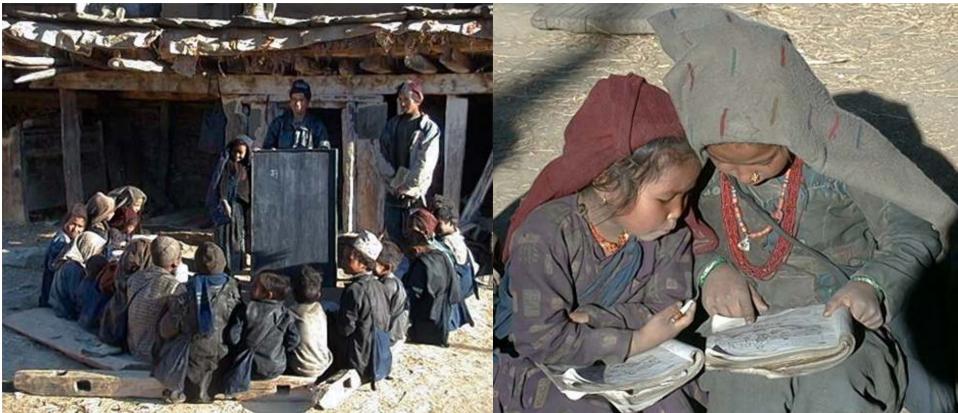
Humla's literacy rate for women is 4.8%

Girls are not sent to school



NFE (Non-Formal-Education)





NFE (Non-Formal-Education)

Now there are NFE classes for women and children



Expected Impacts

If the hypothesis, that a holistic community development projects will have long-term synergetic benefits is correct, the yearly conducted survey will show expected impacts such as:

- Overall Improvement in the Living Conditions
- Increased Health and Hygiene of all people
- Decrease in Firewood Consumption and work load
- Increase in the Women Literacy Rate and Awareness
- Increase in Social Gatherings after Dark resulting in
- Increased Community Development Projects
- High Utilisation and Low Breakdown of the New Technologies

Can this Project be Sustainable?

Technically . . . Economically . . . Socially . . . Environmental . . .

Strive for Sustainability

Technical Sustainability Reliable components Sound design Local O & M services

Economic Sustainability Least-cost preferred systems Services that consumers can afford Periodical fee collection

Social Sustainability Participation of all stakeholders Training of consumers (system use, safety & maintenance) Cultural acceptance by end user

Environmental Sustainability No ecological impact through installation and operation Removal/recycling of batteries, lubricants

Sustainable, Appropriate Technology Projects Can Answer Positively to . .

- 1. Have the needs of all Stakeholders been met?
- 2. Is it the best mix of energy and technology: Least-Cost - Preferred by the Community - Sustainable ?
- 3. Have the Local People Participated from the Start?
- 4. Has the local Community defined the "Rules of the Game" ?
- 5. Have local people be appropriately trained for competent Operation and Maintenance ?
- 6. Has Sustainability be considered before Efficiency?
- 7. Have new Activities and Opportunities been created
- 8. Have the overall living conditions improved ?

Major Obstacles to Successful Projects serving marginalised, poor Communities

History of expectation of free equipment delivery
 High capital and transport cost, due to remoteness
 Deep rooted poverty
 No/minimal and poor education/knowledge
 No community institution to install, service, collect

...our involvement in the lives of the poor, through acts of love and compassion...

> ...as part of our education and profession ...

...is not anymore an option, but an obligation ...

For more Info: Alex Zahnd Email: azahnd@wlink.com.np

