



# APO NEWS

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p. 7, Workshop, Indonesia



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## Two-tiered approach for greater multiplier effects

Last year, the APO successfully completed three pilot in-country training programs for productivity and quality practitioners after analyzing the results of the 2008 need assessment survey among 15 NPOs under the Development of NPOs Program. The success of the in-country programs confirmed that a country-by-country approach could cost-effectively generate substantial benefits for numerous local participants.

Encouraged by the positive reception by member countries, the APO is attempting to generate greater multiplier effects by expanding its two-tiered project-based approach consisting of a multicountry project followed by individual-country programs to disseminate the knowledge nationwide. Under this initiative, the APO has conducted category B/C projects as regional projects for countries with common interests or geographic proximity, followed by national dissemination/training courses. In March and April this year, six follow-up national programs to two multicountry programs in 2008 in the B/C category were completed in cooperation with the host countries.

"In my opinion, the benefits of these types of program are far better than multicountry projects which a maximum of two participants from one country can join," commented Ministry of Industries Secretary and APO Director for Bangladesh Dewan Zakir Hussain in his report to the Governing Body Meeting in Sri Lanka in April. Bangladesh organized a two-day national seminar on Biomass Utilization for Industrial Boilers, 30–31 March this year, as the follow-up to the Regional Workshop on Biomass Utilization for Industrial Boilers, 18–23 August 2008, in Pakistan.



Secretary Hussain (R) delivering the welcoming address at the seminar

It was attended by 48 local participants with 70% from the private sector. Secretary Hussain attended the major sessions of the seminar including the opening, expert presentations, and group discussion and felt that it created a positive impact for stakeholders.

Sri Lanka and Nepal also played host to national dissemination seminars, in Colombo 2–3 March and Kathmandu 5–6 March, respectively. APO expert Arvind Kumar Asthana, who conducted all three national seminars as a resource person, commented, "It is heartening to note that nearly 50 attended the workshop in each country, with a high level of participation from the private sector." Ramesh Kumar, a Nepali participant in the regional workshop, joined Asthana in Nepal and Bangladesh as a resource speaker. He assisted local participants in establishing a plan for a follow-up demonstration project.



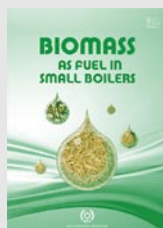
Participants in the Nepal seminar establishing a follow-up demonstration project

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The systematic alignment between regional workshops and national dissemination seminars is important in the success of this approach. “The objective of the regional workshop was to build the capacity of stakeholders, including industries, to collect, store, process, and use biomass as fuel in industrial boilers. It also created a pool of professionals in target countries who could undertake national dissemination projects,” explained Secretariat Industry Program Officer K.D. Bhardwaj. After the regional workshop, a training manual on biomass utilization for industrial boilers was published for use at the national seminars (e-edition of this manual is available on our Web site).



Another three national training programs took place in Cambodia, Fiji, and Malaysia to promote energy efficiency by disseminating knowledge from the Training of Trainers in Green Productivity and Energy Efficiency held in IR Iran, 15–19 November 2008. The success of those programs was particularly meaningful, since the multicountry training project was a face-to-face follow-up to a three-phase e-learning basic training course on energy efficiency held in early 2008. The participants, with the resource speakers’ guidance, provided the input for a training manual on energy management covering industrial applications like pumps, motors, boilers, furnaces, industrial lighting, and large buildings.

The APO tailored the programs and identified experts available for each host country in consultation with their NPOs. Two experts, one from India and one from Japan, were deputed to a national training program held in Malaysia, 28–30 April, which brought together 70 local participants, mostly energy industry engineers. “Overall, the participants were satisfied with the program, how it was conducted, its contents and arrangements,” said Indian

expert R. Virendra, who delivered practical knowledge and principles of energy efficiency, including technical tips for different sectors. Japanese expert Makoto Adachi provided case studies of energy efficiency. Although the experts were different, the national courses in Cambodia, 18–20 March, and Fiji, 25–27 March, had similar formats with 50 and 35 local participants, respectively.



Participants in Malaysia hear an expert presentation

This approach will be used at four national workshops in Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam on Food Safety Management later this year as follow-ups to a multicountry training course held for five ASEAN member countries and the host country on Food Safety Management for Seafood Processing and Marketing in the Republic of China, 17–22 November 2008. “The national seminars/workshops will be tailored to meet the host countries’ specific seafood safety needs. The scope and methodology will be finalized after confirmation by the implementing organizations and resource persons,” said Agriculture Program Officer Dr. Muhammad Saeed.

The APO hopes that this strategic alignment of different project categories will improve quality and performance and have greater multiplier effects to meet both the common and individual needs of member countries. 