



News from IEI's Asian Regional Initiative in Bangalore (India) – March 2017

ISTIC-TWAS Initiative on Successful Innovation in Science and Technology in Developing Countries

The International Science, Technology, and Innovation Centre for South-South Cooperation (ISTIC) under the auspices of UNESCO and the World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) have an ongoing initiative on “Innovations in Science and Technology in Developing Countries”. A biennial competition is held to select innovations that could be widely replicated. As reported in Sep '15, IEI-Asia's project *Sustainable farming communities: improved livelihood through efficient resource-use integrated with clean energy from waste* was among the 12 projects shortlisted from a total of 80 applicants. The selected projects were from 9 countries including Bangladesh, India, Japan, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, Pakistan, and Turkey.

The IEI-Asia project encompasses four of the field studies described in these newsletters during the past 10 years; the projects bring about improved livelihood through increased activities such as fruit/vegetable growing through efficient resource-use, integrated with the generation of fuel from the wastes and the use of this fuel for better energy-services for rural families.

A book containing edited versions of the case studies is now being published by ISTIC-TWAS and will shortly be made available on-line.

Knowledge pool for implementing sustainable rural energy services

As reported in Dec '16, we are developing a *knowledge pool* or *database* of information that would be useful for *sustainable and efficient rural energy service delivery*, particularly those derived from local renewable resources.

By initiating such a repository, we hope to facilitate the effective increase of sustainable rural energy services. Accordingly, the collation will focus on details based on experiences in the field, including both successes and failures. While there is valuable experience in diverse parts of India and other similar developing countries, the benefits have not yet been translated to larger-scale practice.

An IEI-Asia handbook on “Banana plantations and clean cook-stove fuel” had been created to enable integrated banana-growing and biogas-generation for fuelling cook-stoves. Its preparation was funded by the Wisions-SEPS programme of the Wuppertal Institute (Germany). This handbook, a part of the accumulating knowledge pool, is now available online at <http://www.iei-asia.org/IEI-Handbook-Bananas&CleanCookstoveFuel.pdf>

The intention is also to develop a supportive set of modules, starting from what has been done elsewhere, and then going on to what one would require along the way -- implementation steps and precautions against possible problems.