

NGO Recommendations for Moving Renewable Energy Forward

Close to 100 NGO participants from 40 countries met on December 1, 2005 at the *Renewable Solutions* conference to develop recommendations on how to move the global transition to renewable energy forward. Following are some of the agreed upon recommendations that, if implemented, can effectively meet climate obligations, improve energy equity, and achieve security of supply without threatening human security.

The general conclusion of the conference was that in order to meet Kyoto targets and achieve the deep cuts required to prevent dangerous climate change, countries have to maximize renewable energy and energy efficiency to their full potential by setting and monitoring national targets and timelines for renewable energy and sustainable development, improving technology transfer and establishing a supportive international financing framework.

Targets - The setting of binding national targets for the production of renewable energy is one of the most effective mechanisms to accelerate their introduction. We recommend that:

- All governments set and achieve nationally binding short- and long-term renewable energy targets.
- In supporting access to energy in developing countries, international funding agencies and Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) give priority to renewable energy projects that support national targets, greater energy security, capacity building, poverty reduction and maximize local benefits.

International Financing Framework - Given that an active political commitment to renewable energy with adequate financing mechanisms has multiple benefits such as economic development, job creation, energy security and reliability, we recommend that:

- International Financial Institutions and Export Credit Agencies set meaningful and ambitious renewable energy targets. Part of the funding should be geared toward the development of energy commodities export markets in least developing countries.
- A new Global Renewable Energy Investment Bank be established. The grant capacity of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) to finance environmental and other benefits of renewable energy should be increased and be attached to the new Investment Bank.
- Governments actively participate in and finance partnerships that promote the financing of renewable energy and energy efficiency (including REEEP and GVEP), technology transfer and collaboration.
- All subsidies and tax credits for fossil fuel and nuclear power are phased out and support redirected to efficiency and renewable energy development. In order for a just transition, a parallel supply of renewable energy must be made available, particularly to those end-users facing hardship.
- The World Bank led Framework for Clean Energy and Sustainable Development must introduce substantial new money for renewable energy and energy efficiency and exclude support for coal or nuclear projects.

Technology Transfer and Capacity Development - Better technology transfer initiatives and enhanced international collaboration are needed to maximize renewable energy development. We recommend to:

- Improve the technology transfer mechanism of the UNFCCC (Article 4.5) to facilitate and increase the adoption of renewable energy projects in developing countries.
- Design and implement new international, regional, national and community collaboration efforts focused on training, education, and local capacity development.
- Provide incentives to set up manufacturing plants of renewable energy equipment in developing countries, the goal of which is to build up local capital, engineers and technicians and thereby personnel capable of installing and maintaining equipment.