



The MSI Solar PV energy kiosk being loaded on a truck. The kiosk was transported to Kabanga, Mukono district as a modified shipment container to offer solar PV services to the people

Message from Editor

Dear readers, I hope you have been receiving and enjoying our previous quarterly newsletters. We appreciate all the feedback we receive so, keep it coming. CREEC aims at application and adaption of technologies to the local environment. That is why we have a training component in our services. In this quarter, CREEC's solar department started the first of its kind training of solar PV technicians in Soroti, later on in Kumi and Kampala districts. In addition, CREEC has hosted two main training workshops in the solar PV and bioenergy departments where people were educated in various aspects like sizing and installation, general solar basics, solar modules. They also gained some experience through interactive practical sessions conducted during the training. Don't miss reading about CREEC's new corporate social responsibility activities and the participation of staff in international events.

Enjoy Reading.

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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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MSI SOLAR PV KIOSK INSTALLED

The MSI project solar PV energy kiosk was finally finished and moved to Kabanga, Ntenjeru in Mukono district where it is going to serve the people.

The kiosk will offer lending and charging services of solar PV lanterns, and renting of portable DVD players to the local people.

The kiosk is also equipped with two solar computers to provide internet access, printing, scanning and copying.

As these services are being carried out, CREEC is collecting technical data about the solar PV products which will be analyzed and used in future.

SOLAR PV TRAININGS OF TECHNICIANS



CREEC's solar PV department under the request of Solar Engineering International Ltd trained solar technicians in Soroti, Kumi and Kampala in form of seminars. The first training that took place in Soroti was carried out from 11th to 13th July 2012 where 79 participants were trained in solar PV.

This was the first of many such interactions as Solar Engineering International Ltd prepares to set up an office in Uganda and distribute quality solar equipment to people.

The second training that was carried out in Kumi district was held from 29th to 31st August 2012 where 94 technicians were trained and 45 were trained in Kampala district from 28th to 30th September this year.

Spearheaded by the department head Steffen Wassler and accompanied by Joseph Mukasa (intern in the department), the trainers presented practical skills to participants where two complete home systems were set up during one of the training sessions. These trainings enriched trainees with knowledge about solar PV power and its use in domestic environments.

Participants in interactive training sessions got hands-on experience in the areas of;

- Sources and forms of Energy
- Solar energy
- Solar PV system basics
- Solar PV modules
- Solar PV system components: batteries, charge controllers and inverters,
- PV module Installation
- PV system sizing and installation
- PV system troubleshooting

Since phase one was intended to introduce solar technology to the trainees, much focus was put on theoretical knowledge. Follow up trainings during phase two are modeled to emphasize the application of knowledge received in the first phase with participants engaging in more practical sessions.

Below: A practical session during the solar training



Above :Prof Adelman presenting during one of the trainings

CREEC HOSTS TRAINING WORKSHOPS

CREEC was privileged to host a technical and business training on solar PV from 12th to 14th September conducted by Prof. Peter Adelman, co-founder of the Institute for Decentral Electrification, Entrepreneurship and Education (id-eee) at the University of Applied Sciences Neu-Ulm (Bavaria/Germany). This training was organized by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development and GIZ in collaboration with CREEC.

In addition, the Centre also hosted a Kitchen Performance Test (KPT) workshop from 26th-28th of July with the theme "Promoting Clean and Efficient Cooking in the Developing World of Cook Stoves and Indoor Air".

The three-days workshop was organized by Berkely Air Monitoring Group, Winrock International and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) attracting national and international participation from organizations like African Alliance on Clean Cooking, Burn Manufacturing (Kenya), Centre for Integrated Research and Community Development Uganda (CIRCODU), ESIPPS International, Genesis Conservation Ideas (GCI), GIZ Uganda, and Ugastove among others.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACTIVITIES BEGINS

CREEC made a donation of two million shillings and a horse pipe to Nsambya Babies Home on 15th of September 2012 as part of CREEC's new corporate social responsibility activities. This donation was made as a contribution to supplement the home's energy needs. In addition, workers in this home were also trained in basics of using energy saving stoves and how to use a MWOTO stove. Mwoto Factories Ltd also donated a MWOTO stove to the home as a promotion of clean, efficient modern types of cooking.

Nsambya Babies Home became CREEC's partner from September 2010 when it acquired a biogas system that was implemented by CREEC in collaboration with Green Heat Uganda Ltd.

In July, CREEC staff donated some items to the Budduda mudslide victims. They donated bags of clothes, shoes, blankets and bed sheets to these victims who were displaced after the mudslides that buried and killed over 50 people and left thousands homeless.

CREEC hopes to expand further its corporate social responsibility project with an objective of promoting easy ways of energy conservation among the people. They include use of improved cookstoves, promoting the use of alternative cheap methods of lighting like use of solar lamps among schools and also embracing green energy like biogas.

See pictorial below : L-R Nsambya staff and CREEC's biogas technician pose for a picture with the 2 millions cheque, CREEC's Karsten Bechtel and Rehema Namukose together with women learning how to use the MWOTO stove.



Budduda donation : L-R the donation collection point for the Budduda mudslide victims and the PR handing over some of the items.



BEIA PROJECT CLOSE OUT WORKSHOP

As CREEC's BEIA project came to an end in September, the Centre organised a close out workshop in Lira where all stakeholders in the project came together to discuss the sustainability of the MWOTO stove. Stakeholders who took part in this workshop included funders, partners, tinsmiths, salesmen and distributors, many other well-wishers and CREEC staff.

The interactive workshop that commenced on 22nd August and lasted three days was organized by CREEC at Lira Hotel attracting over 80 participants. During the workshop, a new association called Uganda MWOTO Stoves Association was formed as one major form of sustainability.

In addition, tinsmiths, sales-



men and distributors were treated to an interactive business training lead by Jed Musinguzi, a business development specialist in BEIA project.

The tinsmiths also benefitted by learning basic concepts of how to sustain the MWOTO stove business. Issues like a business plan, recording keeping, and pricing setting factors for the product were raised through an interactive session.

Visit www.mwotosove.com for more details about the workshop.



L-R: CREEC's Mary Suzan Abbo with Mr.Emilio Mayoga during a practical session, Teddy Nalubega checking out a turbine

CREEC AT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

CREEC staff in the last quarter participated in a number of international events. CREEC's Managing Director and the Head of Pico-hydro Department participated in a pico-hydro training that was held between the 17th and the 23rd of September, 2012 in Peru by Mr. Emilio Mayoga the director of TEPER-SAC, a company that designs, manufactures and exports turbines.

Elizabeth Begumisa, a Solar Lab Assistant with support from SIDA represented the Centre in Germany from the 17th – 21st September 2012 in a Grid-Connected PV Engineering training at the Renewables Academy (RENAC) in Berlin, Germany. The main focus of the training was on design and installation of a grid-connected PV system. The training also helped technicians become familiar with the main aspects and key challenges of the technical implementation of such projects.

The Management Advisor Wim Getkate, the Head of Bioenergy Department Karsten Bechtel and MWOTO's Marketing Manager Emmanuel Bukenya also participated in BEIA close out workshop in Dar es salam, Tanzania where all BEIA projects running all over Africa were showcased. The workshop was organized by the World Bank, the funder of the BEIA projects.

NEWS BRIEF:

MWOTO GIVE AWAYS IN THE MEDIA

During the BEIA-MWOTO project, radio campaigns kicked off with an aim of creating awareness and increasing demand of the MWOTO stoves on the market.

The campaign was run on regional radio stations of Arua One FM for West Nile, Rupiny for Gulu and northern region, Radio West in Mbarara for the western region, CBS FM and Sanyu FM for the Central and Eastern region of Uganda.

Listeners called the stations to answer any MWOTO questions to win their copy of the MWOTO stove.



ABOUT CREEC

CREEC is a not-for-profit organisation for research, training and consultancy, located at the College of Engineering, Design, Art and Technology (CEDAT) within Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. CREEC's mission is "to enhance access to modern types of energy through research, training and consultancy in East-Africa". The centre focuses on four areas: bioenergy, solar PV, pico-hydro and energy management and aims at application and adaptation of technologies to the specific Ugandan and local environment with an emphasis on systems with components that can be locally manufactured.

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