



***YES SETS UP RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CENTER
FOR JOB CREATION FOR YOUTH IN INDIA***

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The YES Campaign in partnership with SRT Rural Institute in Andhra Pradesh set up a renewable energy technology training center under a project funded by UNIDO on “*Enhancing Employment Opportunities Based on Renewable Energy Technologies for Youth in India*”. As a part of this project a Renewable Energy Training Centre was established to train youth - men and women in Solar Photovoltaic, Solar Thermal and Solar Drying Technologies. The first batch of 50 youth completed their training in the first week of March and finds appropriate placements in the Renewable Energy industry on completion of their training. This training imparted in the center enables youth to equip them with advanced skills to make them employable in the Renewable Energy industry and help them set up Renewable Energy enterprises and thereby promote sustainable livelihood in rural areas. The highlights of this project includes:

Renewable Energy Training Centre: The Renewable Energy Training Centre, the first of its kind in India, houses solar laboratories for Solar Photovoltaic, Solar Thermal and Solar Drying technologies. This center is currently equipped to train over 80 trainees in each batch, aiming at imparting practical and theoretical training on Solar Technologies and to provide entrepreneurial education to help them get a business sense and empower them set up own Renewable Energy Enterprises. An outdoor Solar Energy Park compliments the training Centre. A small library and administrative office completes the renewable energy centre. The center is equipped to provide the trainees with hands on training in manufacturing; assembling, servicing, installing and repairing home based solar energy systems.

A State –level diverse Stakeholders’ Consultative Meeting: The project started with a state level consultation on 17th Dec '04 inaugurated by the Minister of Rural Development, Andhra Pradesh, Shri.D. Srinivas. This consultation attended by over 90 multi-stakeholders, helped in popularising and cultivating a sense of ownership of the project among various institutions and agencies that were involved in the implementation of the project activities. The overall objective of the consultation was to help prepare an appropriate training curriculum in Renewable Energy Technologies with the inputs of the participants.

Fist Batch of Trainees finds employment: A batch of 60 students were enrolled to undergo the training on the basis of their qualification and experience. The training Programmes was started on 3rd Feb '05 by Mrs. Lakshmi Parthasarathy IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Youth Services and concluded on 28th Feb'05. The youth were given training in practical and theoretical training in Solar Photovoltaic, Solar Thermal and Solar Drying technologies. Special emphasis was given to the Entrepreneurship Development Program where they were taught to develop business plans and provided with knowledge to seek funding from financial institutions. They were taken on exposure visits to manufacturing industries. Talks were organized by private sectors heads to give an industrial perspective to the trainees. They were informed about policy framework in Renewable Energy Sector by MNES and NEDCAP.

Employment provided through Campus Placement: Campus interviews were organized with manufacturing industries in RE Sector. The trainees were absorbed in reputed companies like SHELL Solar India Pvt. Ltd, THRIVE-NGO, Photon Energy Systems and Premier Solar Systems Pvt. Ltd. 50 youth were successfully trained in RE Technologies and 33 of them got absorbed in the industrial sector, soon after the completion of their training. About (9) nine of the trained youth that came with previous work experience are planning to start their own enterprises. The center is set to begin its next batch of training.