




NRECA International, Ltd.

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Arlington, VA

NRECA International to Develop Strategy for Renewable Energy Technologies in Yemen

Yemen's Ministry of Electricity and Energy has contracted with NRECA International, Ltd. (NRECA) to develop the Institutional Set-up for the Promotion of Decentralized Renewable Energy Technologies in the Republic of Yemen. The Project, which is funded by the World Bank's Global Environment Facility (GEF), will determine the optimal mode for delivery, financing, and maintenance of off-grid renewable energy services in rural areas and the appropriate integration of renewable energy technologies into the institutional framework for the grid-based rural electrification program previously developed by NRECA.

Virtually all of Yemen's current power is generated from hydrocarbons, but the country has significant potential to increase power generation from renewable energy resources, including wind, geothermal, and solar. The current project will focus on the development and delivery of modern energy services to rural consumers and communities that are not currently grid-connected, which in most cases will involve the use of solar photovoltaic installations.

The current project is a natural and logical extension of the national rural electrification strategy that NRECA has already completed under a previous World Bank-funded project. Work on the project has already commenced and the final institutional design for off-grid renewable energy service delivery will be concluded in late June, 2008.

NRECA has collaborated with the Ministry of Electricity and Energy since 2005, initially under a World Bank-financed project for the development of a national rural electrification strategy. NRECA is now in a subsequent phase of rural electrification program design and implementation under funding from the U.S. Trade & Development Agency, which will result in the formal legal establishment of a national rural electrification agency, as well as the first electric cooperative, which has been initiated in Ibb governorate.