

Letter of Intent Signed between 4 Parties in Nepal

A Letter of Intent (LoI) has been signed between Chhipaharmai Rural Municipality, Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA), Alternative Energy Promotion Center (AEPC) and International Water Management Institute (IWMI) to support the SoLAR project in Nepal. A pilot project on the micro-grid (MG) connected solar irrigation pumps (SIPs) will be carried out at ward 2 in Chhipaharmai Rural Municipality in Parsa district of Province 2.

Under this agreement, Chhipaharmai Rural Municipality will do the following:

- Facilitate the project implementation at the selected pilot site and provide other coordination support as needed
- Make adequate public land available from the municipality's own source as a contribution to the project
- Facilitate the smooth operation of the micro-grid (MG) connected SIP after the system is commissioned
- Provide guidance and participate in knowledge forums that discuss learning and findings of the pilot
- Uptake of the learning for policy, capacity building and programmes of the rural municipality.

IWMI will do the following:

- Lead the overall project design and implementation in coordination with project partners: AEPC, NEA and Chhipaharmai Rural Municipality (RM)
- Provide technical and financial assistance for the implementation of the micro-grid connected SIP project at Chhipaharmai RM
- Conduct feasibility study for a micro-grid connection system
- Conduct baseline, end line survey and monitor the operation of MG pilot
- Provide technical and capacity building supports related to the demonstration pilot at Chhipaharmai RM and document and disseminate learning in different knowledge forums
- Disseminate research results and learnings from the pilot at the national and regional/global level.

NEA will do the following:

- Provide focal person from NEA to oversee the progress of MG connected SIP pilot
- Coordinate with the Rural Municipalities and project partners and construct LT line to the pilot site and install appropriate size transformers
- Contribute the following equipment from the local NEA inventory as per the Feasibility Survey Report as a contribution to the project
- Facilitate the process of installing net metering at MG-connected pilot site at Chhipaharmai RM
- Provide guidance and participate in knowledge forums that discuss learnings and findings of the pilot
- Uptake of research results and learning for policy, programs and capacity development of NEA

AEPC will do the following:

- Provide focal person from AEPC to oversee the progress of MG connected SIP pilot
- Work closely with IWMI and other project partners to monitor the progress
- Uptake of research results and learning for policy, capacity building and programs of AEPC
- Provide feedback on the MG design for the pilot project and play facilitating role during the implementation of the project
- Provide guidance and participate in knowledge forums that discuss learning and findings of the pilot

More information about NEA can be found [here](#).

More information about AEPC can be found [here](#).

More information about Chhipaharmai Rural Municipality can be found [here](#).

IWMI Nepal's Country Representative, Dr Manohara Khadka; Chairperson of Chhipaharmai Rural Municipality, Mr Manoj Kumar Gupta; Assistant Director of AEPC, Dr Laxman Prasad Ghimire and Assistant Manager of NEA, Mr Sagar Gyanwali, signed the agreement on 15 December 2021.