

Background

The Department of Renewable Energy (DRE) under the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MoEA) is pursuing the promotion of Solar Water Heating (SWH) technology in the country. DRE will install Solar Water Heating Systems (SWHS) in commercial, residential, and institutional establishments towards achieving the 3MW equivalent SWHS as per the Alternative Renewable Energy Policy (AREP) 2013. Towards this goal, the Royal Government of Bhutan (RGoB) has received a grant of EUR 360,000 from the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) for the installation of 45 SWHS. This initiative will enhance diversification of energy sources, save electricity, generate employment, promote entrepreneurship, and contribute towards reduction of CO2 emission.

In view of lack of motivation in people to opt for SWHS technology due to higher upfront cost and availability of cheap electricity, a project-tied and time-based subsidy scheme is introduced with educational and awareness campaign programs to encourage consumers under different market segments to opt for the technology. This scheme intends to attract beneficiaries from residential and commercial sector in availing cost-sharing options.

The Annexure covers the following areas:

1. Beneficiary Definitions,
2. Application process,
3. Application forms
4. Selection Criteria,
5. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for public institutions beneficiaries,
6. Letter of Undertaking for commercial and residential beneficiaries,
7. Reporting format,
8. Feasibility study format,
9. Completion checklist.

The Annexure is set up to ensure a fair and transparent selection process and for providing equal opportunity to interested beneficiaries in accessing SWHS under the Project titled “Promotion of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficient Technologies in Building Sector” funded by Austrian Development Agency. These documents are also expected to guide interested entities/beneficiaries in the application process and for the sustainable operation of SWHS.