

Alternative Energy

Edited by

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IIUM Press

Published by:
IIUM Press
International Islamic University Malaysia

First Edition, 2011
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Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

A.K.M. Mohiuddin and Asif Hoda
Alternative Energy
A.K.M. Mohiuddin and Asif Hoda
Include index
Bibliography: p.

ISBN 978-967-418-158-1

Member of Majlis Penerbitan Ilmiah Malaysia – MAPIM
(Malaysian Scholarly Publishing Council)

Printed by :
IIUM PRINTING SDN. BHD.
No. 1, Jalan Industri Batu Caves 1/3
Taman Perindustrian Batu Caves
Batu Caves Centre Point
68100 Batu Caves
Selangor Darul Ehsan

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Chapter 14

Solar Energy Management for Poverty Alleviation and Income Generating Activities

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Abstract

Conventional modes of power besides running out are also aggravating the environment. New and renewable forms of energy are the need of the day. The abundance, inexhaustibility and non-polluting nature of the sun's energy to the earth, have made solar energy the right supplement for conventional energy sources, which are getting scarce and exhausted. For proper management of solar energy, private sector must come forward to take the initiative. A tripartite management system is proposed in this chapter. The first party of the management system is the supplier/manufacturer of the different components of the solar power system and is responsible to extend proper training to the personnel of the third party. The second party of the management system is the bank who will finance the solar power projects. **The** third party of the management system is an NGO who has got its network in rural areas and will be responsible to carry out all the installation work with the help of the first party. They will also be responsible to collect the loan installments/rents from the end-users. The tripartite management with their concerted efforts can make a successful solar power project in remote rural areas.

Keywords: solar energy, poverty alleviation, tripartite management system.

INTRODUCTION

The greatest challenge which will be encountered by the whole civilization in the 21st century is the environmental pollution. In view of the rising environmental degradation and depleting sources of fossil fuels and conventional energy sources, the world is gradually converging towards non-conventional, renewable energy sources.

With increasing power requirements and rising pressures of environmental pressure groups, all eyes are increasingly being turned to the giant powerhouse in the sky, the sun. Every day, solar energy equivalent to 75,000 trillion kWh strikes the earth. Just less than 0.1% of this is sufficient to meet the world energy requirements. The abundance, inexhaustibility and non-polluting nature of the sun's energy to the earth, have made solar energy the right supplement for conventional energy sources, which are getting scarce and exhausted.