**Project implemented by**

**Center for Appropriate Technology (GrAT)** is a scientific association for research and development of Appropriate Technology. Since 1986, GrAT has been proactively responding to a wide range of relevant issues in sustainable development. The long-term vision of the association is to establish systematically sustainable development solutions.

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**Asia Society for Social Improvement and Sustainable Transformation (ASSIST)** is an international non-government organization focused on capacity building. It seeks to promote sustainable practices to address social problems in the developing world, with focus on Asia and Africa. ASSIST takes pride in its organization focused on capacity building. It seeks to promote transformation and sustainable development.

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**The Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI)** is an umbrella organization of the Nepalese private sector. FNCCI plays a catalytic role in the business, industrial development and establish sound industrial relations in the country reinforcing business community's commitment to the society. It provides, inter alia, information, advisory, consultative, promotional and representative services to business and government and organizes training / seminar on a regular basis.

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**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)** offers services drawing on a wealth of regional and technical expertise and tested management know-how. It offers demand-driven, tailor-made and effective services for sustainable development. To ensure the participation of all stakeholders, it applies a holistic approach based on the values and principles upheld in German society.

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**Austria Recycling (AREC)** is working in sustainable industrial development at the interface between economy and environment, acting as a bridge between industry and environment. AREC supports enterprises and communities in particular in the process of the implementation of management systems, by technical and organizational consulting, empowerment of people and training for an eco-efficient, sustainable economic manner as well as in financial and social matters.

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**Sustainable Development Society** is a training and consultancy organization registered in Gurgaon, India since 2007. Its objective is to promote sustainable development by supporting enterprises achieve higher resource efficiency (RE), minimize waste and enhance output. It has impacted more than 100 enterprises across sectors in India and helped them to save money while saving the environment. Benefitting from the optimum combination of training, consultancy and support for implementation and evaluation of the implemented solutions, participating enterprises achieved higher efficiency leading to lower cost of operations at no or low investments.

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**PROJECT STRUCTURE**

Tourism and Agro-based Industries are fast growing sectors in both Nepal and Bhutan and contribute significantly to their GDP, employment generation, and foreign exchange earnings. However, the rise in tourists' arrivals has put extra pressure on developing additional infrastructure and has contributed directly to environmental degradation, waste generation and environmental pollution. Competitiveness of Agro-based Industries are fast eroding as a result of outdated technology, lack of optimized processes and unsustainable sourcing. In Nepal, demand for electricity increases 10% every year whereas production remains constant and the 12 hours daily power cuts are a reality. While both Bhutan and Nepal have ample supply of water, the water tables in many famous tourist destinations and industrial zones are stressed. These are a big challenge that need to be addressed.

The Project SEID is designed to directly address several issues faced by both the sectors and transfer best practices, technology and proven approaches on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP).

**PROJECT UPDATE – till May 2013**

The following activities were carried out during the first year of the SEID project.

**Training of Trainers (ToT)**

2 different ToT training programs and 1 intermediary training were held in Nepal and Bhutan between September and December 2012. A wide range of SCP topics were covered within the ToT program, like resource efficiency, cleaner production, renewable materials, water and waste management. Local experts were trained, 25 in Nepal and 15 in Bhutan, for providing support to MSMEs in the forthcoming project phases.

**Frontier Group**

4 companies in Bhutan and 8 companies in Nepal are chosen to serve as live case studies for training of the local experts.

**CEO Forums**

The first two CEO forums in Nepal and Bhutan were held in March 2013. First sign ups have been realized and more forums will be held to reach out to more MSMEs.

**UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

**MSME Support Program**

The MSME Support Program, while initiated in March 2013 in Nepal & Bhutan, is the main task of the project. This program offers technical assessment and consulting support to 200 MSMEs in the target regions over a period of 20 months. The MSMEs will be able to save resources and hence become more viable. The 20 best performing companies will be recognized and issued Sustainability Awards.

**Technology showcases**

The project identifies and showcases appropriate technologies which help to promote sustainability amongst the target MSMEs. Appropriate technologies are adapted to local needs for lower cost access. The project facilitates participation in technology showcases at both local and international level.

**Empowering Academic Institutions**

This activity will aim to strengthen the interaction between industry and academia and further explore the roles that academia can play in promoting sustainability. This will be achieved by forming Green Clubs to create awareness, Focused Group Discussions to bridge the gap between academia and industry, a faculty engagement program between Europe and India and an interaction platform to forge academic linkages.

**Enabling institutional environment**

The project carries out assessment studies on policy and institutional mechanisms to promote resource efficiency and safer production in the target region. Specific mainstreaming instruments are developed and sectoral agencies are educated to facilitate promotion and implementation of effective resource efficient and responsible production approaches in the target countries.

**BENEFITS FOR PARTICIPATING COMPANIES**

- Improved efficiencies in energy & resource utilization
- Financial savings as a result of cost reduction
- Optimized processes & improved productivity
- Better water and waste management
- Improved environmental performance/compliance
- Increase in renewable energy usage
- Healthier and safer work environment through sound chemical management