

ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (Second Phase)
First NetRes Meeting
16 and 17 November 2006
Hayama, Japan

Outline on the APFED Knowledge Initiative on Awards

I. Background of the APFED Awards

Purpose: The establishment of an award system to update and collect new Good Practices (GPs) has been approved at the First Plenary Meeting of APFED II on 21-22 November 2005 in Bogor, Indonesia. It is aimed at the continuous and systemic collection of the latest GPs in the region that promote sustainable development. This award is presented to eligible organizations to encourage the further dissemination of the GPs, and promote information-sharing through the conduct of workshops or by enlarging the scope of operations of such GPs.

Areas of Interest: Covers all environmental fields such as:

- *Sectoral issues:* climate change, air, freshwater, soil, biodiversity, waste, forest conservation, chemicals, marine and coastal environment, etc;
- *Cross-Sectoral issues:* environmental governance, innovative environmental finance, trade and environment, human-capacity development, environmental information, environmental technology, etc.

Structure: Given under the following three (3) categories, to wit: Gold Prize (1 case @USD20,000), Silver Prize: (2 cases @ USD7,000 each), and Incentive Prize (5 cases @ USD 2,000 each).

Benefits: The prize money indicated above are intended in principle for activities that shall promote replication of their GPs. Typical examples would include: workshops for sharing lessons learned from the project, publications, preparation of training materials, and development of a database system for their practices.

Eligibility of Organizations:

- *On Implementation:* By organizations from national/local governments, private sector, corporations, non-profit organizations, and academic or research institutions
- *On Application Preparation:* By primary actors involved in the proposed policy practices; No third party applications.
- *Exclusions:* Those who have already won other prestigious awards and/or have received a significant monetary award. However, such practices may be included in the APFED GPs Database. Practices from Asia-Pacific countries only will be accepted.

Eligibility for Inclusion: Requirements to be eligible for the APFED Database on GPs, as well as the minimum requirements to be eligible for the APFED Awards on GPs (***note: each award category has its specific indicator along with these minimum requirements***)

- ***Qualitative Measures:*** Has basis in fact, and recognition of best practices based from the following perspective: outstanding in some respect, meets the concept of sustainable development, self-sustaining, the employment of unique or innovative methods, processes, or techniques, can overcome difficult problems that are often confronted, applicable to various socio-economic and environmental conditions; and, are practically easy to understand.
- ***Quantitative Measures:*** Applicants are recommended to submit relevant datasets in order to review the effectiveness of the proposed policies in minimising environmental impacts or those derived from environmental accounting. Admittedly, it is difficult to devise quantitative measures applicable to and comparable across a wide range of environmental policies, although cost-effectiveness can be an indicator to assess for example, energy-saving or climate change policies.

Selection Process:

- (1) Call for applications
- (2) Preliminary screening
- (3) In-Depth evaluation, and
- (4) Final Selection.

II. Brief Background of the Awarded Projects (5) under the 2006 APFED GP Awards

Gold Prize (1)

Solomon Islands: “Rehabilitating a Rural Economy with Virgin Coconut Oil Production (Kokonut Pacific Solomon Islands Limited-KPSI)

This project assisted rehabilitation of a rural economy by making effective use of coconut – the most sustainable agricultural resource of these communities. It significantly improved the livelihoods of coastal communities in the Solomon Islands by setting up a complete Direct Micro Expelling (DME) System to produce Virgin Coconut oil (export quality) and local transport fuel at the farm level. Under the difficult period of political instability with collapsed domestic markets, barter trade common and rural poverty widespread, the case yielded significant outcomes to improve social and health conditions, and to provide increased employment opportunities.

Silver Prize (2)

Republic of Korea : “Geumho River that Breathes Life” (City of Daegy, South Korea)

This project is considered as one of the most successful eco-restoration initiatives, and involves the leadership of local government taking a participatory approach involving many stakeholders. The conduct of public hearings and training workshops were made to encourage private sector collaboration. NGOs acted as voluntary guards for the environment. Anchored on a vision to revive Guemho river by harmonising the diverse and conflicting interests of the stakeholders involved, the City office of Daegu successfully managed consensus-building through strategic planning and management approach.

Australia: “Christie Walk Ecocity Project, Adelaide, South Australia (Urban Ecology Australia with Ecopolis Architects Pty Ltd)

This project is an innovative inner-urban ecological development driven by participatory community processes and a focus on education and quality of life outcomes. The first case in the area, this medium-density community housing project is a non-government funded cooperative which addressed water and energy conservation and efficiency issues.

Incentive Prize (2)

Philippines: “Instituting Local Mechanisms for Sustainable Water – Integrated Management and Water Governance (SWIM)- ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, Southeast Asia

The first in the country, this local water governance reform was adopted based on the the Local Agenda 21 participatory management principles. The water reform agenda was to shift from sectoral to integrated water governance and translate this into mechanisms to set integrated actions into motion. The conduct of local water dialogues essentially steered stakeholder participation and consensus-building on water governance reforms and mechanisms that could work for them.

China: “Environmental Sustainability by Legal Means in China” – Center for Legal Assistance to Pollution Victims (CLAPV)

This project is the first attempt in China by a non-governmental organization to provide legal assistance to pollution victims so that they can bring their case to courts. Legal aid to pollution victims come in the form of setting up of hotlines and provision of litigation support. Most of the cases aided involved issues on damage to life, health and property. Not only were compensation sought and received in these cases, but public awareness of their environmental rights were also advanced.

III. Proposed Discussion Points

A. NetRes Support During Application for GP Awards

- 1) Elaboration on how to further publicise the awards programme
- 2) Defining the process of verifying information based on application for awards
- 3) Refinement of collaboration between NetRes and IGES (as the NetRes Secretariat) on the evaluation of applications for the GP Awards

B. NetRes Support to GP Award recipients

- 1) Nature and Extent of Collaboration Between Net Res and the Award Recipients
- 2) Expected Outputs from this Collaboration Bet. NetRes and the awarded organizations
clarification on ownership of documents/research materials
- 3) Recognition of NetRes Support –How?
- 4) Refining the communication process between and among NetRes, IGES as Net Res Secretariat, and the awarded organizations (as regards project continuity, use of award funds,etc.)

IV. Suggestions