

CDM pilot project to stimulate the market for family-hydro for low-income households

***Client:** Department for International Development (DFID), under Knowledge and Research (KaR) Energy Programme.*

***Partners:** IT Power, UK; Renewable Energy Association of the Philippines (REAP); Vietnam Support Programme for Sustainable Energy Development (VSED) at the Hanoi University of Technology.*

This project, which will be complete in 2004, seeks to extend the use of low-head family (or pico-) hydro units (in the range of 200-1,000 W) in the Philippines, drawing from the experience in Vietnam where many thousands of systems have already been installed. By investigating the potential for CO₂ emission reductions from the wider use of this technology, the aim is to develop a route for Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) financing to enable more of these projects to become accessible to low income households in developing countries. This is especially true in SE Asia, South America and the Indian sub-continent where there is a massive unexploited pico-hydro potential on irrigation canals in unelectrified villages. The project is also considering whether funding via the CDM could reduce the cost of better quality pico-hydro systems thus improving the sustainability of family hydro developments.



The impact that this technology can have on individuals is substantial with better prospects for a safer and healthier home and options for village-based enterprises that require electricity. The project also makes links to the Millennium Development Goals and seeks to integrate small-scale renewable energy into national energy policies.

For further information please contact: Simon Taylor, IT Power, The Manor House, Lutyens Close, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 8AG UK. Email: simon.taylor@itpower.co.uk; Tel: +44 (0) 1256 392700.