
Draft Action Plan

to advance renewable energy solutions for enterprise development in
Hindu Kush Himalayas

Insights from the needs assessment analysis

- **Lack of access to reliable and sufficient energy**
 - Units of enterprises – households, communities and MSMEs – that make up the majority of the value chain actors in the mountain context face challenges
- **Limited value addition**
 - Lack of energy to produce and process high volume and high quality products and services
- **Heavy reliance on traditional energy sources**
 - Contributing to environmental degradation and *missed opportunities* for value-creation.
- **Renewable energy technologies offer a tremendous opportunity**
 - Increasingly cost-competitive and highly adaptable
- **Technologies exist and are being increasingly deployed**
 - Often not designed for productive use of energy

Key Action Areas

1. Strengthen the **ecosystem** shaping sustainable energy contribution to enterprise development

- Offer practical guidance on ecosystems development for renewable energy use across HKH, and share the best practices and lessons learnt
- Improve understanding of contextual and mechanistic factors that can enhance the impacts of renewable energy and efficient technologies on value chains and enterprises

Key Action Areas

2. Mainstream sustainable energy measures in **policy and planning**

- Best practice and lessons sharing on introducing dedicated policies by energy and non-energy ministries for deploying renewable energy in the mountain context
- Conduct sector- and value-chain specific assessments, including identification of energy flows and gaps and opportunities for renewables

Key Action Areas

3. Catalyze **accessible financing** for end-users and enterprises

- Facilitate regional exchange on financing needs and innovative instruments between FIs (commercial banks, MFIs, cooperative banks) and end-users (households, CBOs and MSMEs).
- Forge partnerships with DFIs/NDBs to develop the capacity of local FIs in the region to design and make accessible specialized financing products for different units of enterprises.

Key Action Areas

4. Support **technology innovation** and adaptation processes

- Discuss opportunities for renewables intervention at different stages of economic value chains in the HKH region.
- Facilitate south-south knowledge-sharing between technology providers on renewable energy adaptations and innovations in the HKH region.

Key Action Areas

5. Build capacity across value chains of mountain products and services

- Establish infrastructure and mechanisms to deliver technical skills training such as installation, maintenance and repair. Link to existing skills certification initiatives, including IRENA's work in West Africa.
- Provide MSMEs access to capacity development programmes, covering business administration, accounting and marketing skills, to develop forward market linkages for mountain products and services. Link to existing programmes, including the West and Southern Africa Entrepreneurship Support Facility.

Key Action Areas

6. Improve the **data and information** base on energy flows in mountain value chains

- Capacity building of cross-sector institutions and stakeholders in the HKH region on energy data gathering and renewable energy assessment.
- Follow-up scoping exercise covering a larger sub-set of countries and value chains from the HKH region.

Key Action Areas

7. Leverage **regional partnerships** to deliver transformation

- Leveraging IRENA and ICIMOD's unique institutional capacity and mandate, including the convening power of their governing body meetings or similar platforms
- Joint events with relevant HKH countries and regional organizations (SAARC, UNDP, UNIDO, Aga Khan Development Network etc.)
- Common Roadmap of Actions backed by political commitment

Operationalization

