PRESS RELEASE

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has agreed to provide a grant assistance of Euro 14 million (equivalent NRs. 1.75 billion) to the Government of Nepal for the implementation of a new "Promotion of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies Programme".

This grant will be used for

- institutional solar PV systems including solar water pumps in rural areas of Nepal in partnership with the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment / Alternative Energy Promotion Center's (AEPC) on-going National Rural & Renewable Energy Programme, and
- extension of power transmission infrastructure in the Trishuli Corridor.

The support to AEPC's National Rural Renewable Energy Programme reiterates the longstanding commitment of Germany providing energy (biogas and solar) to people in rural areas without the perspective of on-grid connection in the near future.

With the successful completion of the last on-grid energy project, the construction of Middle Marsyangdi Hydropower Plant, now in operation for more than four and half years, German-Nepal Financial Cooperation is now focusing on building adequate infrastructures, mainly transmission lines for evacuating power from various hydropower plants being constructed both by the public and private sectors. The corresponding transmission infrastructure is a prerequisite for providing electricity generated by the new hydro power plants to the consumers. These supports will continue till 31 December 2020.

Joint Secretary, MOF, IECCD Mr. Madhu Kumar Marasini and German Ambassador H.E Mr. Frank Meyke signed the agreement on behalf of respective governments in a ceremony at the Ministry of Finance, Singhadurbar this morning. With the signing of this agreement.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for its continued support in the socio-economic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance, Kathmandu 21 June 2013 (07 Asad 2070).