



„Vertical Shaft Brick Kilns and other Sustainable Construction Practices” in Nepal

Cooperation Agreement with the EU delegation in Kathmandu, Nepal

On 30th November 2011, Dr. Hendrik Schiffmann, Director International Relations and Projects at DMAN, signed a grant contract with the EU delegation in Kathmandu, Nepal. The contract is worth some two million euros and runs over a period of 40 months.

In this project, DMAN cooperates with the Swiss company Skat and with FNCSI in Nepal. Contracting authority is the SWITCH-Asia Programme “Promoting Sustainable Consumption and Production” of the European Commission.

The European Union launched the SWITCH-Asia Programme as a grants programme funded through its development cooperation instruments. It is centrally managed by the Development Cooperation Office (DevCo), the Commission’s arm for implementing external assistance.

Under the last call for proposals, over 300 applications were received, out of which only 17 were awarded contracts. Once awarded, the grants are managed by representative offices, the EC Delegations, which exist in all Asian countries eligible under the programme.

DMAN contributions

In this project, DMAN assumes the following responsibilities:

- Consortium manager and direct partner of the contracting authority
- Responsible for project planning and project implementation
- Responsible for budgeting and financial control
- Project management and communication with all stakeholders involved
- Organisation and outbound marketing

Project goals

The regional environment programme SWITCH-Asia is aiming to promote the adoption of sustainable consumption and production among small and medium-sized enterprises and consumer groups in Asia. Sustainable consumption and production is an attempt to reconcile the increased demand for goods and services that respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life with the minimisation of the use of natural resources, toxic materials and emissions of waste and pollutants over the life cycle, in order not to jeopardize the needs of future generations.



The overall objectives of the project are to contribute to the mitigation of global warming and environmental degradation by reducing greenhouse gases and black carbon emission, to foster sustainable (economic, environmental, social) production, to contribute to economic prosperity as well as to poverty reduction in Nepal.

The specific project goals relate to:

- reduced energy consumption and CO₂ emission in the brick and building material production in Nepal,
- the creation of an enabling policy and regulatory framework,
- the promotion of sustainable production and sustainable consumption patterns in the construction industry,
- raised awareness of private sector stakeholders for green building materials and solutions,
- consumer information on the benefits of clean energy and energy-saving building material.

Background



Conventional brick production is one of the largest polluters in Nepal. VSBK technology consumes less energy and produces 30 to 40 % less CO₂ emission, as compared to traditional production methods.



Human labour is still widely used in the brick-producing sector, which leads to health hazards as well as social complications during the seasonal production periods.

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