Donor country

European Union

Project/programme title

(TEP) Adding value to renewable energy technologies as well as knowledge and experience transfer, 2006

Purpose

The main objective of improving livelihood opportunities of the rural and isolated areas of New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna, through the promotion of renewable energy sources.

Recipient country	Sector	Total funding	Years in operation
French Polynesia,	Renewable energy	€10.3 million	2006-2009
Wallis, New	technologies		
Caledonia, Futuna			

Description

This initiative focuses on solar and wind energy. Several wind farm projects have been implemented in the past few years in New Caledonia. One of these is located in the North of New Caledonia's main island, with some 22 windmills already erected. The farm eventually aims to provide some 11 Megawatt to the three main towns of the area, Koné, Voh and Pouembout.

The wind-generating units span 32 metres and reach a height of 55 metres on a mast. They start producing power when winds reach 10 knots, but can also easily be dismantled in case of cyclone. They are also equipped with a self he two rotors to maximize wind production, according to the winds direction and strength. The longer term plan is to install a total of 42 units on the same site, called Kafeate. However, for the whole of New Caledonia, the plan is to build wind-generated electricity to 60 Megawatts (an estimated 15 % of all of New Caledonia's electricity consumption) by 2010. Wind-generated production is directly connected to the existing power distribution network, which is operated by French company Enercal.

Indicate factors that led to project's success

Improved rural electrification in order to improve quality of life.

• Improved electrification of public services such as schools, hospitals as well as commercial properties.

• Increased energy independence and security for island inhabitants.

- Encourage co-operation and solidarity between islands concerned.
- Transfer of acquired knowledge and skills between the islands.

Technology transferred

Renewable energy technologies

Impact on greenhouse gas emissions/sinks

A positive impact has been made through this project but it is currently not measurable