

## The Honduran Association of Small Renewable Energy Producers (AHPPER); Asociación Hondureña de Pequeños Productores de Energía Renovable

Facilitating the Evaluation of Renewable Energy Projects and Improving the Approval Processes with the Honduran Government.

The energy crisis Honduras suffered in 1994, caused many institutions in Honduras to include renewable energy in planning for energy demand. However, one major barrier for the implementation and construction of renewable energy projects over the last decade has been the lack of an Energy Policy and proper follow up to existing incentives laws. As a result several attempts have been made by financial development agencies to identify those barriers. Due to political reasons inside the government, those attempts have failed, causing those funds to be wasted and never obtaining a positive result. This delay causes the projects to become more expensive and in some



cases to disappear. AHPPER has proposed a new law to congress called the “Incentive

Article highlighting AHPPER’s activities in the renewable energy sector

Law for the Promotion of Renewable Energy Projects” which was approved in October 2007, but has yet to be implemented due to lack of enforceable regulations.

AHPPER is presently working with the government to make the approval process for renewable energy projects more transparent and timely. With the grant from TPW, they are conducting the following activities:

- Revising the existing permitting process with the objective to propose a renewable energy exclusive attention unit.
- Visiting a country in the region (Guatemala or Costa Rica) that has an Energy Policy in place to look at best practices and work with that country’s government authorities and private sector leaders.
- Organizing seminars/workshops, which will take place three times in a 12 month period, to highlight the importance of renewable energy to all the community members and decision making entities gathered in the centralized governments.
- Implementing the First National Renewable Energy Conference. During this energy conference, advances in the Energy Policy, as well as short and long term objectives will be discussed.
- Conducting an intensive educational campaign that will address all the different available renewable energy technologies. The environmental, social and economical benefits for the communities at the areas of influence of the projects will be highlighted.
- Proposing an Energy Policy Transition Team for the Government of Honduras.

