

Border Green Energy Team (BGET)

Website: www.bget.org

This grant increased the sustainable deployment of solar home systems in low-income rural Thai communities. It also supported the development of renewable energy micro-enterprises among refugees, and fostered technical capacity for rural development.

Location: northern Thailand

Remote off-grid villages in Thailand had received temporary basic electricity services from solar energy in 2004. With this grant from the TPW Energy Collaborative, Border Green Energy Team aimed to sustain this electricity for these rural homes and increase the capacity of the solar power in these homes. They worked to:

1. Improve capacity of local people to maintain and repair solar home systems, especially in low-income ethnic minority groups in the Thailand Burma border area.
2. Increase solar home system warranty awareness among villagers nation-wide, and improve reliability and transparency of the warranty claims procedure.
3. Work with the national and local governments as well as community members to address long term Thai solar home system sustainability.



Training on battery maintenance and on system warranty awareness

With the local Tambol government in two districts in Tak province, the Border Green Energy Team set up local solar home system committees. Technicians then trained these committees on each component of the solar home systems, so that they could respond to any problems. They developed a network for low-cost repairs of existing systems, developed technical manuals, provided needed equipment and conducted training for local trainers. They also created a video that teaches basic solar home system maintenance and repair. They distributed this video to 3,500 Tambol offices.

