Asia Solar PV Initiative

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Objective

- Remove barriers to the market development of solar PV installations

Scope:
- Grid-connected solar PV installations
- Off-grid solar PV installations (with distributed generation)
- Rooftop solar PV installations (with or without grid connection)

Geography:
- China and Southeast Asia
Barriers / Opportunities

1. Lack of capacity among installers and designers
2. Lack of product quality standards
3. Lack of technical code for grid-connection
4. Access to finance difficult for small-scale projects
5. Opportunities to develop/improve government supporting policies
6. Opportunity to engage industry (manufacturers, solution providers)
1. Lack of capacity among installers/designers

- **Installers:**
  - Not aware of proper installation practices, lack of knowledge of product selection (cables, connectors, etc.)

- **System designers:**
  - Lack of knowledge on safety aspects, selection of products (cables, connectors, inverters, grid-connection issues, etc.)

- PV system’s performance below design (lower output-efficiency; higher operation and maintenance cost: lower ROI for investor)
- Safety not ensured (safety of installers OHS; impact of PV installations on fire safety conditions (esp. for rooftop installations))
- Problems for grid connection
1. Lack of capacity among installers/designers

Solution:

- **Training of installers and designers:**
  - Develop training curriculum with practical demonstration such as videos (for installers)
  - Develop practical training materials
  - Develop train-the-trainers curriculum and materials
  - Transfer training tools to strategic organizations who will conduct training of trainers in-country

- **Certification**
  - To ensure that the training of designers and installers is self-sustainable (that is when participants will pay for training fee), a certification scheme must be put in place, which needs to be recognized by the market. Ultimately, it is necessary to create a demand for certified installers and certified trainers.
  - Actions necessary include: design of certification system with criteria for testing, evaluation, certification; establish certification scheme (certification bodies); lobby to government to have certification scheme recognized (ultimately becoming mandatory); promotion targeting investors and operators (to create demand for certified installers and designers).
2. Lack of product quality standards

- Absence of product quality standards and certification/labeling prevents investors and operators from selecting the good quality products
  - Reduce efficiency/output of PV system
  - Increases operation and maintenance cost
  - Negatively affect reputation of solar PV (especially for home/building owners) with long-term impact

- Solution:
  - Develop product quality standards
6. Engaging industry and solution providers

- Manufacturers and solution providers have interest in solar PV market development

- The should be associated with corresponding initiatives to:
  - Support “lobbying” of government for policies/subsidies
  - Develop training and capacity building tools
  - Develop technical codes
  - Promotion
The Asia Solar PV Initiative

- The Asia Solar PV Initiative aims to address all these barriers in order to accelerate the deployment of solar PV installations in Asia

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- **Approach:**
  - The Asia Solar PV Initiative, coordinated by the Copper Alliance, will be implemented through the establishment of the Asia Solar PV Platform
  - The Asia Solar PV Platform will bring together:
    - Knowledge organizations
    - Major target groups (utilities, governments, financing institutions, industry-solution providers)
The Asia Solar PV Platform

- **Initiative leaders:**
  - One leading organization per initiative
  - Coordination with ICA
  - Create and coordinate working group
  - Lead brainstorming and development of work plan
  - Manage implementation of work plan

- **Working group:**
  - Composed of stakeholders with:
    - Strategic interest (like industry, solution providers)
    - Technical/knowledge capacity
    - Influential position
    - Implementation capacity
  - In charge of developing and implementing work plan

- **Work plan:**
  - To be developed by the working group under guidance from the initiative leader
  - Prioritize actions
  - Identify sources of funding
Thank you

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