

Press Release

Capacity building paves the way for renewable energy and energy efficiency in Russia



Berlin, 08/12/2011 – With the support of the German Federal Foreign Office, the Renewables Academy - one of Germany's leading educational specialists for renewable energies - will this month be undertaking a Capacity Needs Assessment in renewable energies and energy efficiency in the Russian Federation. The project forms part of RENAC's international TREE Project (TREE - Transfer Renewable Energy and Efficiency). The aim is to define the training needs in Russia along the value chains for renewable energy and energy efficiency. The assessment will take place during December, with the cooperation of the ministries and public institutions concerned. On this basis it is planned to develop specific educational offerings for the transfer of know-how, to be run over the course of next year.

Russia aims to increase the proportion of renewables in its energy supplies from around 1% at present to 4.5% by 2020. Through this, amongst others power supplies will be able to be improved to the 10 million people who live in regions having unstable power distribution. Technically, Russia's potential for renewable energy, especially biomass, solar power and wind energy is estimated at 4.5 billion TCE a year. This number is four times higher than the total current consumption of fossil fuels in the country. One of the hurdles facing the country is, however, the lack of an overall strategy for building up the necessary know-how, adapted to the different stages of the renewable energy value chain, throughout the country's educational institutions.

RENAC, based in Berlin (Germany), has already been supporting the development of the renewable energy and energy efficiency sector on an international scale over the last 3 years through its internationally recognized TREE education project. To date, with the support of the German Federal Environment Ministry, courses have been undertaken for participants from more than 50 countries. In November the German Federal Foreign Office took over promotion of the project. Russia has been included in the list of target countries requesting trainings in Russian language, together with others such as Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Ukraine. The TREE project has already won acclaim, both nationally and internationally, through a number of awards.

About RENAC: RENAC, based in Berlin, is an international provider of education and training and other services related to professional education in renewable energies and energy efficiency. Its range of services includes open and in-house courses, e-learning, consultancy and support of third parties in course design - from drawing up of curricula through to setting up training centers.

Further Information: www.renac.de and www.tree-project.de

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