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Government of Nepal  
Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation  
**Alternative Energy Promotion Centre**  
**Central Renewable Energy Fund**

**Call for Concept Notes application for Sustainable Energy Challenge Fund  
Financial Assistance for Distributed Renewable Energy Projects**

Nepal Renewable Energy Programme is a Government of Nepal programme dedicated to increasing private sector investment in distributed renewable energy (DRE) and increasing universal energy access, while facilitating policy, planning, legal construct, and regulatory environment conducive to both enabling and sustaining progress in DRE market development.

Central Renewable Energy Fund (CREF), the financial mechanism of Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPCC) has established a Viability Gap Funding based Sustainable Energy Challenge Fund (SECF) with funding support from UK-Aid. SECF provides financial and technical assistance to the DRE projects to ensure their financial viability and sustainable operation.

The SECF application procedure has two-stage process. In the first stage, applications for Concept Note of potential DRE projects are requested. In the second stage, short listed Concept Note applicants will be invited to submit Full Applications, which will undergo due diligence and evaluation by an Independent Evaluation Panel of DRE experts.

**Applications are requested from the project developers of;** (1) DRE projects developed in a Public Private Partnership model; (2) Projects to be implemented by aggregating demands of DRE technologies and projects; (3) Projects to improve energy access to the households through reverse auction; (4) Projects proposed for the improvement of technical, financial and managerial aspects of the existing mini and micro hydro projects or other renewable energy mini-grid project; (5) Grid-connected solar PV installations at commercial, institutional and industrial buildings for bank interest rate buy-down or incentives based on kWh generation; and (6) Innovative DRE projects that meet SECF objectives.

- **Priority will be given to the projects developed in off grid areas and contributing for clean energy access to households, enterprises and institutions.**
- **Interested Local Governments are requested to submit the expression of interest to develop the energy access project through reverse auction modality**
- **Interested commercial banks are requested to submit the expression of interest to participate in the Loan Loss Guarantee Mechanism.**

With this notice, AEPCC/CREF invites all the eligible applicants to submit the Concept Notes via online application portal: [www.secf.nrepnepal.com](http://www.secf.nrepnepal.com). The online application portal will be open to submit the concept notes until end of September 2022. Concept notes received during this period will be evaluated on a rolling basis. So, we encourage the potential applicants to submit their concept notes at earliest possible date.

Please visit our website <https://www.nrepnepal.com/notices/> for any further information. Interested applicants can also contact us directly through [secf\\_queries@NREPnepal.com](mailto:secf_queries@NREPnepal.com) or call us at **9802323318**.

Information Package on SECF including eligibility criteria, application process and Funding Windows, are available through the following websites:

[www.moewri.gov.np](http://www.moewri.gov.np), [www.aepc.gov.np](http://www.aepc.gov.np), [www.cref.gov.np](http://www.cref.gov.np), [www.nrepnepal.com](http://www.nrepnepal.com).

AEPCC/CREF reserves the right to accept or reject, wholly or partly, any or all the project concepts without assigning any reason, whatsoever.