

## Comments on ADB's Energy Strategy (version May 2007)

To: Strategy Feedback Form

From: Ms. Charito M. Isidro  
Energy Engineering Program  
University of the Philippines

Date: 27 July 2007

---

### Comments on Appendix 1: Energy and Millennium Development Goals

1) I think it would be better and more convincing if the Draft Energy Strategy would show how energy would address the different dimensions of poverty – income poverty, hunger, disease, lack of adequate shelter, and exclusion.

2) Areas of Intervention - One of the recommendations to support the ADB “Rural Electrification and Energy Access Programs” is the identification and application of some lessons from successful programs to extend electrification in Developing Member Countries (DMCs) (Pages 33 to 34, paragraph 19). Although such move is commendable, it would be profitable for the advancement of the Rural Electrification and Energy Access Programs to study the peculiarities of the cultures of the various DMCs and apply the lessons learned from successful cases with modifications.

3) Lack of Interaction with Stakeholders from the DMCs - Nowhere in the Areas of Intervention discussion (Pages 33 to 34, paragraph 19) is there any mention of interaction with the stakeholders from the DMCs. There is a need for constant interactions with governmental, industrial, political, educational, cultural and spiritual authorities participating in the realization of sustainable development programs and that an active role be given to scientists from developing countries.

This is important. Most ADB projects have brought into the DMCs experts from first world countries, which have little or even no experiential local knowledge. Most of these experts give recommendations based on their first world experiences, which at times are to the detriment of the DMCs.

### Comments on Appendix 2 – ADB's Clean Energy and Environment Program: 2007 Update

One thing lacking, I think, in ADB's approach is in the area of information, education, and communication (IEC). Most clean energy technologies are more expensive than conventional energy technologies. An IEC initiative or program would increase the acceptability of clean energy technologies to the public, who, in one way or another, will bear the costs of the adoption of such technologies.

The views expressed in this paper are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), or its Board of Directors or the governments they represent. ADB makes no representation concerning and does not guarantee the source, originality, accuracy, completeness or reliability of any statement, information, data, finding, interpretation, advice, opinion, or view presented.