

**Project Title : MicroEnergy Credits – Integrated Cooking & Space Heating Carbon Mitigation Program**

**Organizer : MicroEnergy Credits (MEC) & Bhutan Ecological Society (BES)**

**Date : 13th April, 2026**

**Time : 9:00 AM - 13:00 PM**

**Venue : Ludrong Hotel, Thimphu and Sakteng Gewong, Trashigang**

## **Background & Context**

MicroEnergy Credits (MEC), in partnership with the Bhutan Ecological Society (BES), is implementing the “*Integrated Cooking & Space Heating Carbon Mitigation Program*” aimed at accelerating the transition to clean energy solutions in Bhutan. The program promotes the adoption of efficient electric induction and infrared cookstoves, as well as electric space heating systems, to replace traditional biomass and LPG-based appliances. This transition is expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve indoor air quality, and contribute to reduced pressure on forest resources.

The initiative is being developed under Bhutan’s Carbon Markets Framework (2025), aligned with Article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement, and supports high-integrity mitigation activities that contribute to Bhutan’s Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and broader sustainable development priorities.

As part of the project development process, Local Stakeholder Consultations were conducted simultaneously on 13 April 2026 in Thimphu District and Sakteng Gewog under Trashigang, ensuring representation from both urban and remote communities.

The Local Stakeholder Consultation forms a key requirement under leading carbon certification standards, including Gold Standard and methodologies are the ICVCM, Core Carbon Principles (ICVCM-CCP). It ensures transparency, meaningful stakeholder participation, and strong social and environmental safeguards, while also enabling early identification of risks, incorporation of community feedback(**Annex 1: Feedback Form**) into project design, and promotion of inclusive benefit-sharing and long-term sustainability.



Photo 1 : Local Stakeholder consultation in Thimphu



Photo 2 : Local Stakeholder consultation at Sakteng, Trashigang

## Purpose of the Consultation

The objective of this consultation is to facilitate open and constructive dialogue with local stakeholders on the proposed carbon program. The session aims to ensure transparent sharing of project details, including expected impacts and benefits, while actively gathering feedback to improve project design and implementation.

Key objectives included:

- Sharing project design, scope, and expected climate and social benefits transparently
- Collecting local feedback to improve program design and implementation
- Identifying risks early and defining appropriate mitigation measures
- Ensuring inclusive participation and fair benefit-sharing mechanisms
- Strengthening trust, acceptance, and long-term sustainability of the intervention
- Ensuring alignment with Bhutan Carbon Market Framework (2025), including safeguards and compliance requirements
- Meeting Gold Standard and CCP requirements for meaningful stakeholder engagement and validation

[Presentation For Reference](#)

[Non Technical Project Summary](#)

## Participants Summary

Participants in the Local Stakeholder Consultation for the project *“Micro-Energy Credits: Integrated Cooking and Space Heating Carbon Mitigation Program in Bhutan”* included representatives from various sectors. Government agencies were represented by the Department of Energy, Ministry of Education and Skills Development, Thimphu Thromde, Gewog Administrations (Kawang, Sakteng and Merak), Ministry of Health, and the Electricity Regulatory Authority.

Participants from International organizations included the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the World Wildlife Fund–Bhutan (WWF). Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as the Bhutan Ecological Society (BES), Respect, Educate, Nurture, and Empower Women (RENEW), and Clean Bhutan were also present.

The private sector was represented by electric stove/ space heater Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), consultants, and entrepreneurs. In addition, representatives from RENEW Microfinance Institution and local leaders from Trashigang (online) took part in the consultation.

## Summary of Key Issues Raised by Participants

- **Scope of Coverage:** Clarification requested on whether institutions such as schools, monasteries, and commercial establishments will be included, as the current design appears household-focused.
- **Carbon Credit Integrity:** Need for inclusion of how carbon credit integrity is ensured, including verification and monitoring systems.
- **Energy Efficiency Data:** Requirement for documented evidence on appliance efficiency, including power consumption and performance benchmarks.
- **Operations & Maintenance (O&M):** Concerns regarding repair services, maintenance systems, and availability of local technical support, particularly in rural areas.
- **User Understanding & Consent:** Many end users, especially in peri-urban areas, may not fully understand carbon credits or associated implications. A simplified explainer in Dzongkha and English was strongly recommended, along with a clear informed consent process (including verbal consent with witness where necessary).
- **Grievance Mechanism:** Current documentation lacks clarity. Participants requested:
  - A simple, accessible grievance mechanism (hotline or local focal point)
  - Defined response timelines
  - Public reporting of grievance resolution status
  - A one-page visual flowchart in Dzongkha and/or English
- Concern was raised regarding the adequacy of existing household electrical wiring systems, with some households likely requiring upgrades to safely accommodate the proposed appliances. It was noted that low-income households may not be able to afford such improvements, and participants suggested that the project explore options to support or subsidize necessary internal wiring upgrades to ensure equitable access.

## Commitments & Next Steps

In line with Gold Standard requirements, MEC and BES will now open a **30-day public feedback period** following this consultation. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit additional comments, concerns, and suggestions to further strengthen project design.

## Feedback Window

- **Start Date:** 14th April 2026
- **End Date:** 14th May 2026 (30 days)

Stakeholders may provide feedback via:

MicroEnergy Credits: [satyanjan.panda@microenergycredits.com](mailto:satyanjan.panda@microenergycredits.com)

Bhutan Ecological society: [sonamwangmo@bes.org.bt](mailto:sonamwangmo@bes.org.bt)

All feedback will be documented, reviewed, and incorporated into the final project design where relevant. A summary of responses and how feedback was addressed will be made publicly available in line with transparency requirements.

## **About MEC and its Implementing Partner**

### **MicroEnergy Credits (MEC)**

MicroEnergy Credits is a global climate solutions organization enabling high-integrity carbon programs across clean energy, sustainable agriculture, and conservation. Over the past 19 years, MEC has delivered more than 10.5 million tonnes of verified emission reductions across multiple countries including India, Mongolia, Kenya, and Uganda. MEC applies robust MRV systems and technology-enabled approaches to ensure transparency and credibility in carbon markets.

### **Bhutan Ecological Society (BES)**

The Bhutan Ecological Society is a Public Benefit Organization registered under the CSO Act 2007 of Bhutan. BES advances science-based conservation and climate-resilient development by linking policy, research, and community action. The organization works to promote sustainable livelihoods while safeguarding Bhutan's ecosystems through practical, field-based interventions.

### **Contact Person(s)**

Satya Ranjan Panda  
Micro Energy Credits

Sonam  
Bhutan Ecological Society

Wangmo

## Additional Photos:



Photo 3 : Stakeholder consultation participants from various agencies in Thimphu

A screenshot of a Zoom meeting. The main window displays a slide titled "AGENDA" with the following items:

- Welcome & Introductions
  - Introduction of Stakeholders
  - Introduction of Company (MEC)
  - Introduction of Implementation partner (BES)
- Baseline and Project Overview
  - Baseline overview
  - Project Summary & Technology with Energy Meter Description
  - Basic Overview of Carbon Credit Mechanisms
  - Carbon Waiver Declaration and User Agreement
- Overview of the Paris Agreement Article 6.2 (Including LOA process)
  - Stage A (Letter of Support and Letter of Intent Received)
- Gold Standard for Global Goals (GS4GG)
- Overview of SDGs and safeguarding principles & Assessment
- Grievance Redress Mechanism
- Open Discussions Round (Q&A and Clarifications)
- Stakeholder Feedback and Discussion
- Completion of Evaluation Forms
- Closing Remarks

The right side of the screen shows a grid of video thumbnails for participants: Satya Ranjan Panda, Chhimi Dorji, Nima Norbu, Karma Tshering, Iemo Iemo, and Sonam Wangmo. The bottom of the screen shows the Zoom control bar with a timestamp of 9:44 AM and the meeting title "Local Stakeholder Consultation - MicroEne...".

Photo 4: Screenshot of online participations and agenda

## Annex 1: Feedback From





	<p>དགོངས་ཞུ་འབད་ནི་གི་</p> <p>ལམ་ལུགས་ཀྱི་སྐོར་ལས་ བསམ་འཆར།</p>	
<p>2</p>	<p><b>Kindly express your views on the grievance mechanism explained above?</b></p> <p>གོང་ལུ་བཀོད་ཡོད་མི་</p> <p>འཕྲུལ་ཆས་ཡན་ལག་ ལམ་ལུགས་</p> <p>འདི་ལུ་ཁྱོད་ཀྱི་བསམ་འཆར་བཀོད་</p> <p>?</p>	
<p>3</p>	<p><b>What recommendations do you have for monitoring procedures discussed above regarding the SDG indicators?</b></p> <p>གོང་ལུ་བཀོད་མི་ SDG</p> <p>བརྟེན་སྒྲིག་གཞི་བཟོ་ལུ་</p> <p>ལྟ་རྟོག་འབད་ནི་འི་</p> <p>བློ་རིམ་གཞི་བཟོ་ལུ་ ཁྱོད་ཀྱིས་</p> <p>གཞི་སྐོར་བསམ་གཏེ་ཡོད་པ་ཨིན་ནེ་</p>	



<p>7</p>	<p><b>Will this programme facilitate mitigation of gender inequalities in society</b></p> <p>ལས་རིམ་དེ་འགོ་སྐྱོད་པའི་སྐོར་གྱི་འཕྲོད་འཐུང་ལྡན་པའི་མཐོང་སྒྲུབ་ལུགས་ཀྱི་འགོ་སྐྱོད་པ་</p> <p>འདྲེན་པ་མཉམ་སེན་པའི་པར་ལོ་རྒྱུ་ལྟར་ལས་ཀྱི་འགོ་སྐྱོད་པ་</p> <p>མཐོང་སྒྲུབ་ལུགས་ཀྱི་འགོ་སྐྱོད་པ་</p> <p>མཐོང་སྒྲུབ་ལུགས་ཀྱི་འགོ་སྐྱོད་པ་</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p><b>Have you understood the explanation regarding the Paris Agreement (specifically the aspects related to Article 6.2) and/or CORSIA?</b></p> <p>ཁྱེད་ཀྱི་འཕྲོད་འཐུང་ལྡན་པའི་</p> <p>པ་ལི་སི་འཕྲོད་འཐུང་ལྡན་པའི་(Paris Agreement) (དམིགས་འབལ་ལྟར་</p> <p>དོན་ཚན་ཅུ་</p> <p>པ་དང་འབྲེལ་བའི་འགན་དོན་</p> <p>ཚུ་) གོ་སྐྱོད་པའི་གསལ་འགྲེལ་ལྟར་</p> <p>ཉེ་གཏོགས་པའི་དང་/ཡང་ན་ CORSIA</p> <p>འཕྲོད་འཐུང་ལྡན་པའི་ལས་རིམ་འོག་གི་</p>	
<p>9</p>	<p><b>What do you like or dislike about the programme?</b></p> <p>ཁྱེད་ཀྱི་འཕྲོད་འཐུང་ལྡན་པའི་ལས་རིམ་འོག་གི་</p> <p>གཏོགས་པའི་དང་/ཡང་ན་</p> <p>མཐོང་སྒྲུབ་ལུགས་ཀྱི་འགོ་སྐྱོད་པ་</p>	

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**Any other comments/complaints**

གནད་དོན་གཞན་མེད་པ་ལྟོགས།

ཉོ་གསལ་བཤད་བཀོད་པ་མེད།

Signature མིང་རྟགས་

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