
Shahriar Ahmed Chowdhury (PPRE 2004-06) has initiated the bi-yearly International Conference on the Developments in Renewable Energy Technology (ICDRET, www.icdret.uiu.ac.bd ) in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The first event was held in December 2009 with technical support from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), USA, and with co-operation from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The second event was held from January 5th to 7th, 2012. The event was organized by United International University, Bangladesh, and Co-organized by PPRE, University of Oldenburg, Germany, Centre for Energy and Global Environment of Virginia Tech State University, USA and Kathmandu University, Nepal.

20 local and international organizations involved in renewable energy supported the event as sponsors and co-sponsors. The ICDRET is organized with a view to exchanging the ideas on implementation and dissemination of renewable energy technology in different parts of the world, with particular interest in the South Asia region. The scope of the conference is not limited to technology only; it also addresses the economic and sociological aspects of renewable energy. The conference is a forum for sharing experiences, exchanging the views from different tiers of this sector and helping to forge a long lasting bond between academia, industry and the people involved in the dissemination of the technology at the grass roots level. 102 research papers were presented in the second ICDRET and the participants of the conference were from 22 different countries of five continents (Asia: Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Singapore, China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, Iran, UAE, Yemen; Europe: Germany, Norway, UK; North America: US, Canada; Australia: Australia; Africa: Sierra Leone, Gambia).

Shahriar has also organized The German Alumni Energy Expert Seminar for South and South-East Asian countries in co-operation with PPRE of University of Oldenburg and Energy and Environmental Management (EEM) of University of Flensburg with the financial support from German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The alumni expert seminar was held in United International University in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 5th to 11th January, 2012. The expert seminar consisted of participation in the ICDRET from 5.1.2012 to 7.1.2012 and a DAAD alumni energy expert seminar from 8.1.2012 to 11.1.2012. The ICDRET was open to researchers and professionals in the field while the alumni seminar was exclusively reserved for alumni who have studied in Germany. 26 scientific participants (alumni of German higher educational institutions) from 10 South and South-East Asian countries and 6 resource persons from Germany contributed to the energy seminar. All the participants of the Energy expert seminar were alumni of German higher educational Institutions. A list of participants in the programme is attached in this report. 10 technical papers and 10 country reports were presented on the first two days of the seminar. The third day included a visit to a PV panel assembling plant and also to a battery manufacturing plant. The final day had a seminar for alumni networking and then the seminar concluded with the certificates giving ceremony. There were also four invited talks on the current technology and local progress in the Renewable Energy sector.
Inaugural ceremony of the ICDRET 2012 and the German Alumni Expert Seminar

PPRE alumni in the German Alumni Energy Expert Seminar for South and South-East Asian Countries, Dhaka, Bangladesh (5th – 11th January, 2012). From Left:

Shahriar Ahmed Chowdhury (Bangladesh, PPRE 2004- ’06)
Evelyn Brudler (Germany, PPRE 2004- ’06)
Iresha Somarathna (Sri Lanka, PPRE 2003 – ’04)
Yin Zhang (China, PPRE 1999 – ’00)
Abdul Mohaimin Mahmud (Malaysia, PPRE 2008 ’10)
Hans Gerhard Holterf (Germany, PPRE 1988 – ’89)
Md. Motoher Hossain (Bangladesh, PPRE 2008 – ’10)
Ibrahim Ahmed Shafi (Bangladesh, PPRE 2001 – ’02)
Sunil Prasad Lohani (Nepal, PPRE 2006 – ’08)
Shamsundar Subbarao (India, PPRE 1999 – ‘00)
Palitha L.G. Kariyawasam (Sri Lanka, PPRE 1992 – ‘93)
Ahmad Jahir Khan (Bangladesh, PPRE 2005 – ‘07 not in picture)
Jorifa Khatun ((Bangladesh, PPRE 2006 – ’08 not in picture)

Technical Session of the ICDRET 2012

Participants of the German Alumni Energy Expert Seminar