

## **Solar Pico PV Market Potential in Nepal**

With the present increasing energy crisis, Solar PV System has become one of the economic, efficient and with maximum potential that has estimated to light up around 50% of non-electrified households. It is primarily targeted for the poorest of the poor segment of the population. With the amount spent for lighting purposes by non-Solar users, it is even enough to install SHS using the credit facility with the average payback period of around 5 years.

With only two third of the population connected to the national grid and the rest still relying on traditional sources of power, solar energy has been identified as one of the alternative sources for providing “pre-electrification facilities’. There exists potential of electrifying 1.37 million households by various means, including solar PV.

The existing minimum requirement of lighting by a rural household is 3-4 bulbs and a mobile charger which could be easily supplied by SHS. Though there is increasing demand of solar PV in Nepal, the price is not yet decreasing as of in the global market because of the limited importers and the wholesalers. There is huge demand of solar technology among the non-electrified households. With the present credit facility, the households are even more attracted to shift to more clean lighting solutions. Thus, Pico Solar PV system is a new dimension, fighting the energy poverty that can be a genuine source of moving towards clean lighting solution.

