

LRC Helps Launch Regional Center for Energy-Efficient Lighting in South Asia

Effective, efficient lighting could provide economic opportunity as well as improve literacy and quality of life for more than a billion people living in rural villages and towns in developing countries who have no access to effective nighttime lighting in their homes, schools, or community buildings.

After many months of planning, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) partnered with the Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority (SLSEA) and the LRC to create a new lighting center, known as the Regional Centre for Lighting (RCL). Launched in April 2009, the center serves eight countries in South Asia: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The RCL is designed to advance sustainable lighting and make it affordable to improve the well-being of the citizens and the countries within the region.

The LRC is the primary knowledge partner for the RCL and will provide technical knowledge, training, and guidance on RCL activities.



To kick-off the training activities, more than a dozen RCL participants representing government, academia, and industry sectors from South Asia visited the LRC for a two-week education program. The group was introduced to a variety of information on lighting technology, LEDs, daylighting, human factors, light and health, lighting design, application, and evaluation.



South Asia region.

Unique Advantage

Since the region's lighting infrastructure is in its infancy, South Asia has the opportunity to learn from both the accomplishments and mistakes experienced in the western part of the world, and promote processes and technologies and develop programs that have the best chance at success.

As part of the initial education program, the group traveled to the headquarters and manufacturing facilities of OSRAM SYLVANIA, Philips Lightolier, and Philips Color Kinetics where they participated in tours and product demonstrations, and discussed potential future project opportunities.



Sponsors

Lighting Research Center
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority (SLSEA)
South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy (SARI/Energy)

View LRC Project Sheets at
www.lrc.rpi.edu/resources/newsroom/projectsheets.asp

