

When Ideas Flow, Villages Grow

[Dilawaiz Deeya Didar], [6th]

[Mehnaz Fatima School , Gilgit], [Gilgit], [Gilgit.B]

Introduction

Electricity is very essential in of our life. It is not only used for lightening purpose but our every activity need electricity, either we are in school, office, or at shop. However in Pakistan 56 million people especially of the rural areas don't have any access to electricity. So, they are facing many challenges, i.e. they have to do all their work by themselves, they are not able to take benefits from the modern technologies, and ultimately they don't have access to the quality of education and life. Being blessed with a lot of renewable energies they don't have any idea for generating electricity by using, solar, and hydro power energy. For this major issue not only the govt and some companies are responsible but we the educated people are responsible. The youth mind is our fundamental resource to use the renewable energy to use as alternate sources for electricity.

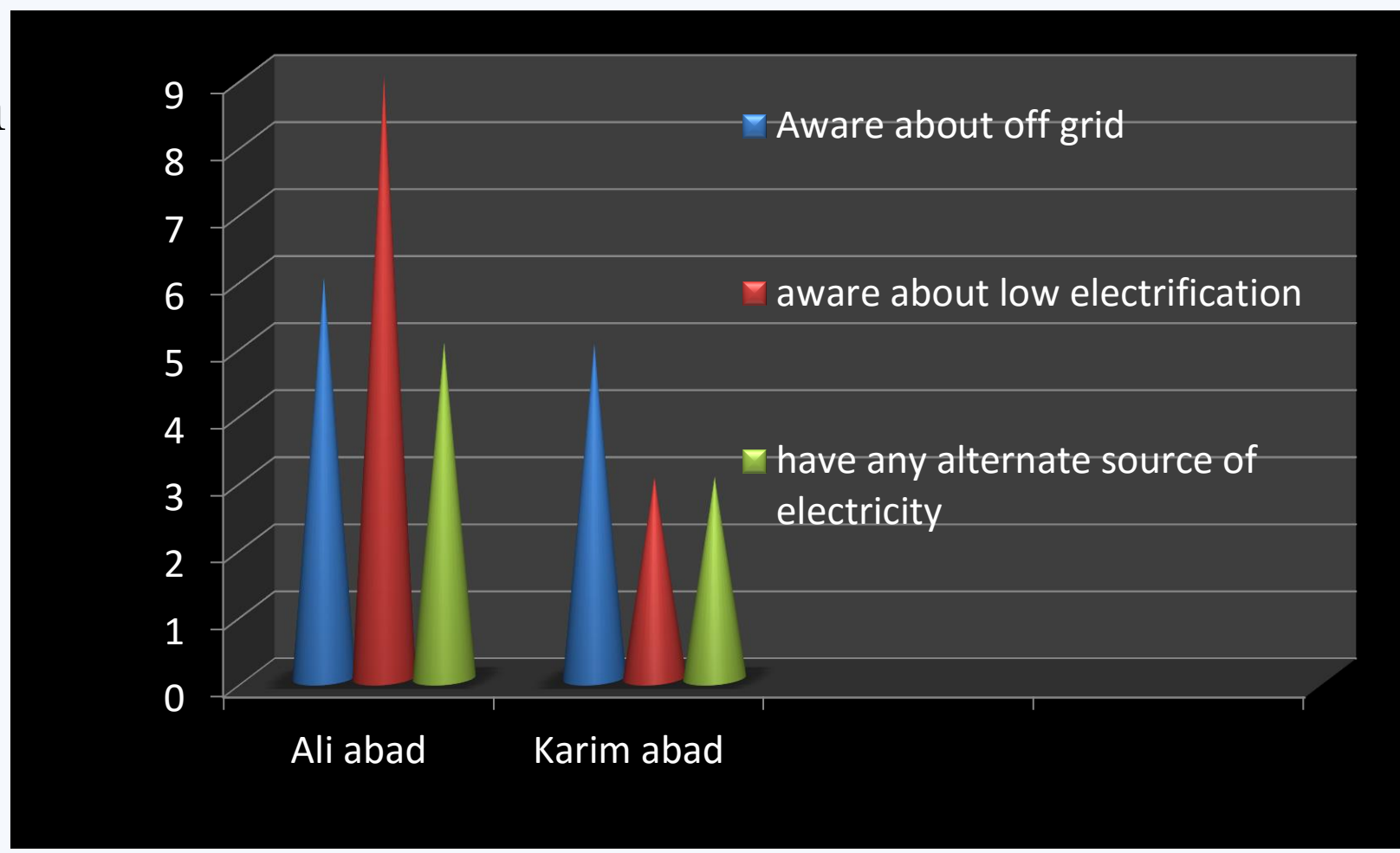
Off-grid System as an Alternate Source of Generating Electricity

The electricity that is generated using renewable energies, like solar energy, wind energy and hydropower energy, by combining different methods we produce our own electric power. For example solar power is used to create electricity in the form to off-grid energy. The sun-powered option, which includes photovoltaic solar panels, an inverter and batteries, can provide lots of electric power. So I think generating electricity through off grid system is the prime need of villages of Pakistan, because most of them are poor people so this is the low rate of electrification. There are not any industries in villages so the electricity will be enough for them to fulfil their basic needs. There are also a lot of renewable energies like running water in the form of natural fountains and stream and also solar energy. They will reduce the use of wood for fire places, so deforestation will be overcome. In Hunza Ali Abad most of the people use the electricity generated by off grid system by solar energy. They are also using it for the local markets and they are easily studying in light.

Data Collection



I went to Hunza with my papa in ordered to survey two villages of Hunza; one is Aliabad that is somehow commercial, while the second one is Karim Abad. First of all I interviewed my father, then 10 from Aliabad and 10 from Karimabad. Most of them including my father were unaware but they were willing to have off grid system, whereas in ali Abad most of them were aware and also they have solar light system at home, but few of them were saying that its cost is high due to the batteries at the time of installation. However I visited one of the owner of café, who has covered the whole roof of café with solar panels and he was saying that this 24 hours solar light convinced most of the people to come here” and the auditorium over there was used for different event even for marriage only due to the solar light facilities .



Creating Awareness

I have done research on the low electrification rate in rural areas trying to find out how many people have idea of low electrification rate and Based on my findings I tried to create awareness in the following ways:

1. I presented my poster presentation in morning assembly at my school for teachers and students and support staff
2. I posted my research findings through poster on Facebook and internet blog to propagate awareness among people about off-grid system.

Impact

Following impacts highlighted as a result of the above awareness campaign:

The first step: I gave a presentation on my poster where I only discussed the first three sections. I told them about what is meant by off-grid and how it is an alternate sources of electricity. How renewable energies in rural areas are used for the generation of electricity. Appreciation for new ideas were received.

Secondly 53 people via Facebook appreciated the idea of off-grid system. 18 used words like ‘must’ and ‘should’ to install off-grid system in their homes and offices. 23 said that the batteries and solar panels are costly. This shows that the above strategies had sufficient impact on people about the importance of off-grid system.

From the research I learned that interacting with people and getting ideas is really exiting to enhance learning. The challenge they shared most often change my ways of interaction. I also learned that convincing people into new ideas seemed to be challenging as well as exciting to handle.

Reflection

In conclusion, I feel secure in future about the electricity in our village because we have abundant of infrastructure in the form of renewable energy , once when we will be able to know the benefits of off grid and low electrification then we will get a lot of advantages from it, our youth is becoming more and more educated ,so along with government, we will also generate electricity for ourselves. Hopefully we will have no more issues of electricity in rural areas, and I am optimistic that we will be able to provide electricity to the surrounding towns in future.



Dilawaiz Deeya Didar