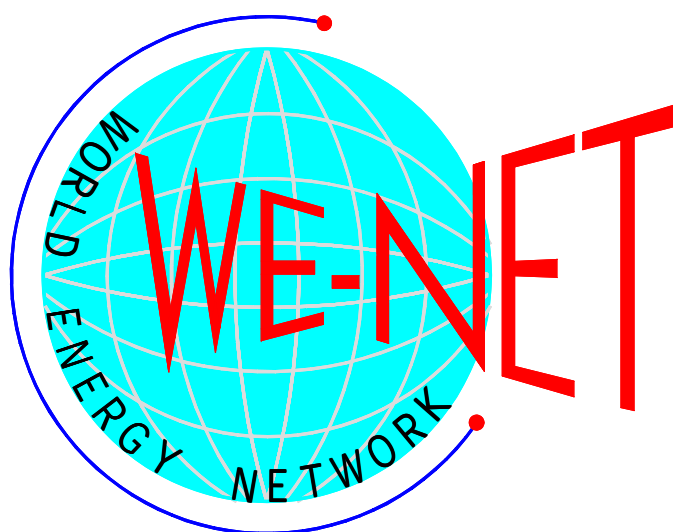


2001 Annual Summary Report on Results
NEDO-WE-NET-01

International Clean Energy Network Using Hydrogen Conversion (WE-NET)



March 2002

New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization



Preface

Because of the exhaustion of fossil fuel and uncertainty for global environment, Japanese Government has been taking an active part in development of new energy for the past 20 years.

In 1992, Agency of Industrial Science and Technology in the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) presented the project entitled International Clean Energy Network Using Hydrogen Conversion (WE-NET: World Energy Network), as a part of the New Sunshine Project.

The WE-NET project aims at efficient utilization of energy with its focus on renewable energy that is unevenly distributed in the world. This project will include hydrogen production from water by harnessing renewable energy, transportation of hydrogen by converting to the form suitable for transportation, and supply to large energy consuming areas.

The world-wide diffusion of the WE-NET project will contribute to the reduction of carbon dioxide, alleviation of international energy supply and demand, and creating opportunities for more energy production and for fostering export industries in countries blessed with renewable energy.

The basic R&D plan for phase II of the WE-NET project was established. In FY 1999, the five-year phase II R&D effort began. In phase II, we concentrate to small scale dispersal power supply, contrastive large scale power supply in phase (From FY 1993 to FY 1998). Recently PEFC-type fuel cell technology is developing quickly, and Fuel Cell Vehicles (FCVs) are fast approaching commercialization. The WE-NET(World Energy Network) project is working to establish short-term hydrogen production technologies to supply the new FCVs. Therefore from FY2001 we started the one organized project namely "PEFC/hydrogen energy" program.

This report summarizes the results of the WE-NET project in FY 2001.

March 2002

New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO)