



**Agenda**  
**SAFIR-SAREP Conference on “Deepening Cross Border Electricity Trade and Regional Electricity Market Development for Sustainable Energy in the South Asia Region”,**  
**2nd and 3rd March, 2023,**  
**Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi, India**

**Jointly Organised  
by  
South Asia Forum of Infrastructure Regulation (SAFIR)  
&  
USAID’s South Asia Regional Energy Partnership (SAREP)**

**Conference on**  
**“Deepening Cross Border Electricity Trade and Regional Electricity Market Development for Sustainable Energy in the South Asia Region”**  
**2nd and 3rd March, 2023, Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi, India**

AGENDA		
Day-I, Thursday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> March, 2023 (Sovereign II, Le Meridian)		
9.30 –10.15 Hrs.	Session-I: Inaugural	
9.30. – 9.35 Hrs.	Lamp Lighting Ceremony and Group Photograph	
9.35–9.40 Hrs.	Welcome Address by Mr. Harry Kriz, Director, Indo Pacific Office, USAID/India	
9.40 – 9.47 Hrs.	Special Address by Mr. Harpreet Singh Pruthi, Secretary, SAFIR and CERC	
9.47-9.54 Hrs.	Special Address by Chief Guest, Mr. Alok Kumar, Secretary (Power), Government of India	
9.54–10.01 Hrs.	Special Address by Mr. Nima Tshering C, Director, Electricity Regulatory Authority, Bhutan	
10.01–10.11 Hrs.	Special Address by Mr. John Smith-Sreen, Deputy Mission Director, USAID/India	
10.11-10.15 Hrs.	Vote of thanks by Ms. Monali Zeya Hazra, Regional Energy and Clean Energy Specialist, USAID	
10.15-11.15 Hrs.	Tea Break	
11.15-13.00 Hrs.	<b>Working Session-I: “Conducive Policies and Facilitating Regulations for advancing Cross Border Energy Trade, and Regional Electricity Market development for fostering Sustainable Energy”</b>	
<b>This session will focus on:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Initiatives taken by South Asian (SA) countries in policy, regulatory and legislation reforms/initiatives to accelerate Cross Border Electricity Trade (CBET) and development of Regional Electricity Market (REM).</li><li>❖ Sharing of key experiences and lessons learned by each SA countries in designing of appropriate policy/regulatory instruments and their impacts on Energy Security.</li><li>❖ Role of CBET in development of Energy Secure South Asia.</li><li>❖ Way forward to develop robust coordinated/harmonized regional framework and mechanisms across policy, regulatory, legal, commercial, market and institutional aspects for deepening CBET and enhancing Energy Security.</li><li>❖ Need for and importance of building regional institutional mechanism across policy, regulatory, technical level for long term development of Energy Secure region.</li></ul>		
11.15-11.30 Hrs.	Opening Remarks by Session Chair and Moderator	Mr. Ghanshyam Prasad, Chairperson, Central Electricity Authority (CEA)
11.30-12.30 Hrs.	Panelists <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Mr. Nima Tshering C, Director, Electricity Regulatory Authority, Bhutan</li><li>2. Hon'ble Chairman, Bangladesh Electricity Regulatory Commission, Bangladesh</li><li>3. Ms. Shilpa Agarwal, Joint Chief (Engineering), Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, India</li><li>4. Mr. Dilli Bahadur Singh, Chairman, Electricity Regulatory Commission, Nepal.</li><li>5. Mr. Chamath Goonawaradena, Director-Regulatory Affairs, Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka.</li></ul>	
12.30-12.50 Hrs.	Open Discussion, Question and Answer	
12.50-13.00Hrs	Closing Remarks by Session Chair, Mr. Ghanshyam Prasad, Chairperson, CEA	
13.00-14.30 Hrs.	Lunch Break	
14.30-16.15Hrs	<b>Working session 2: “Creating Transmission Infrastructure - Developing a South Asia Regional Power Grid for Sustainable Energy and Greening the Grid for cross border clean energy trade”</b>	
<b>This session will focus on:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Creating Infrastructure for deepening regional power market development-Developing a South Asia Regional Power Grid -Opportunities and Challenges</li><li>❖ Accelerating the development of cross border transmission interconnections</li><li>❖ Future plans for cross border transmission interconnections and vision of South Asia Regional Power Grid</li><li>❖ Role of the South Asia Regional Power Grid in enhancing Sustainable Energy</li><li>❖ Planning the Grid for CBET and Transmission System for Integration of large-scale renewable energy capacity in South Asia.</li></ul>		

- ❖ Establishment of South Asia Regional Power Grid under 'One Sun One World One Grid': Challenges and Prospects
- ❖ A regional planning approach -developing Regional Transmission master plan, integrated system operation.

14.30-14.40Hrs	Opening Remarks by Session Chair and Moderator	Mr. S. S. Barpanda, Director, Market Operation, Grid Controller of India Limited
14.30-16.00 Hrs.	<p>Panelists</p> <p>1. Mr. Durga Nanda Bariyait , Director, Transmission Directorate, Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA), Nepal</p> <p>2. Mr. Sonam Tobjey, CEO, Bhutan Power Corporation, Royal Government of Bhutan.</p> <p>3. Mr. Abdul Rashid Khan, Project Director (Chief Engineer), Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB), Bangladesh</p> <p>4. Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Senior General Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd</p> <p>5. Mr. Pankaj Khurana, Programme Specialist, International Solar Alliance, New Delhi, Delhi, India</p>	
16.00-16.15 Hrs.	Open Discussion, Question and Answer	
16.15-16.20 Hrs.	Closing Remarks by Session Chair, Mr. S. S. Barpanda, Director, Market Operation, Grid Controller of India Limited	
16.20-16.45 Hrs.	High Tea	
Day-2, Friday, 3rd March, 2023 (Hall 2020, Le Meridian)		
10.00-11.30Hrs	<b>Working session 3: “Strategy for transitioning gradually to Trilateral/Multilateral Power Trade and Development of Regional Power/Energy Market for advancing Sustainable Energy”</b>	
<b>This session will focus on:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Opportunities and challenges in transitioning gradually from Bilateral to Trilateral/Multilateral Power Trade (TMPT) for advancing Sustainable Energy through Cross Border Energy/Electricity Trade (CBET).</li><li>❖ Key findings of the study on” Transition of bilateral power trade to trilateral and multilateral power trade in South Asia and International Experiences”</li><li>❖ State of Energy market development in each SA country and strategy for development of Regional Power Market.</li><li>❖ Key ingredients required in each country to enable TMPT, Learnings from CBET through power exchange.</li><li>❖ Model for Regional Power/Energy Market development in South Asia.</li></ul>		
10.00-10.05Hrs	Opening Remarks by Session Chair and moderator	Mr. Mohammad Hossain, Director General, Power Cell, Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources, Government of Bangladesh
10.05-10.15Hrs	Key findings of the study on “Transition of bilateral power trade to trilateral and multilateral power trade in SA and International Experiences ”	Mr Rajiv Ratna Panda, Power Market Specialist, South Asia Regional Energy Partnership
10.15-11.20 Hrs.	<p>Panelists</p> <p>1. Mr Ashok Kumar Rajput, Member (Power System), Central Electricity Authority, India</p> <p>2. Mr. V K Agrawal, Senior Advisor, SAREP</p> <p>3. Ms. Dawa Chhoedron, Chief Engineer, Department of Energy (DoE), Ministry of Economic Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan.</p> <p>4. Mr. Rohit Bajaj, Head, Business Development, Regulatory Affairs &amp; Strategy, Indian Energy Exchange Limited (IEX)</p>	
11.20-11.30 Hrs.	Open Discussion, Question and Answer	
11.30-11.35 Hrs.	Closing Remarks by Session Chair - Mr. Mohammad Hossain, Director General, Power Cell, Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources, Government of Bangladesh	
11.35-11.45 Hrs.	Tea Break	
11.45-13.00 Hrs	<b>Working session 4: Building New Energy Infrastructure: Emerging Clean Energy Innovations. Technologies for Energy and accelerating clean energy transition.</b>	



**This session will focus on:**

- ❖ Need for accelerating clean energy transition and Opportunities and challenges of Building New Energy Infrastructure
- ❖ Building a technology ecosystem for fostering energy technology innovation
- ❖ Modernizing Regional Power Grid – Smart Grid Technologies in Transmission Sector
- ❖ Innovative Energy Storage Technologies (Batteries, Thermal, Mechanical Storage, Hydrogen, Pumped Hydropower)
- ❖ Developing a Hydrogen Economy and National Green Hydrogen Mission of India
- ❖ Smart Technologies for Integrated power system operation
- ❖ Innovation in Regional Electricity Markets- Opportunities and challenges
- ❖ Creating Regional Energy Technology Innovation and Transfer Center- BIMSTEC Technology Transfer Facility (TTF)
- ❖ Regulating and incentivizing the adoption of the Clean Energy Innovations, Technologies for Energy & Climate Security

11.45 -11.55 Hrs.	Opening Address by Session Chair and Moderator: Mr. Arun Goyal, Member, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, (CERC), India
12.00-13.10 Hrs.	<p>Panelist</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr. S K Soonee, Former-CEO, POSOCO</li> <li>2. Mr. Vikram Gandotra, Head Utilities sales and strategy, Siemens</li> <li>3. Mr. Awdhesh Kumar Yadav, Chief (Engineering), CERC, India (Regulating and incentivizing the adoption of Clean Energy Innovations and technologies for accelerating clean energy transition)</li> <li>4. Mr. Debi Prasad Dash, India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA), India (Innovative Energy Storage Technologies)</li> </ol>
13.10-13.20 Hrs.	Open Discussion, Question and Answer
13.20-13.30 Hrs.	Closing Remarks by Session Chair, Mr. Arun Goyal, Member, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, (CERC), India
13.00 -13.35 Hrs.	Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks by Mr. Harpreet Singh Pruthi, Secretary, SAFIR and CERC
13.35 -14.30 Hrs.	Lunch

**Conclusion of the Conference**