

# LEADERS' ROUNDTABLE: EXPANDING REGIONAL COOPERATION ACROSS CLEAN ENERGY VALUE CHAIN

## Background

South Asia is a high-growth region with rapidly increasing energy demand, industrialization, urbanization, and economic expansion. The South Asian region, one of the most populous regions in the world, in the recent years has registered a steady growth rate upwards of about 6%. With one of the lowest per capita electricity consumption (only 6% of global consumption levels), it presents a large untapped demand to be accessed. More than 55% of the population is part of the labor force, and the region needs to focus on job creation and skilling to monetize this demographic dividend.

Currently, South Asia relies on fossil fuels imports, which impacts the balance of payments and economic development. However, the region is experiencing a rapid energy transition. This creates great opportunity to transform the product and equipment market in the energy sector. The high import dependence of energy equipment also limits economic value addition, highlighting the need for stronger regional manufacturing capabilities and supply chains. This requires cooperation among industry players, which is currently limited to CBET.

Broad-basing regional cooperation to newer areas of energy transition can lead to multiple benefits. Wider areas under energy transition include grid and distribution equipment and infrastructure (e.g., smart meters, GIS/underground substations, new age transformers etc.); energy efficiency appliances (e.g. space cooling, super-efficient air conditioners etc.); sustainable transport (e.g. e-buses, 2/3/4W vehicles etc.), clean energy (e.g. energy storage, hydrogen etc.) and more. These present a large white space to define new areas of cooperation that benefit SACs economically, environmentally, and also create new job opportunities and employment.

**DATE: OCTOBER 22, 2024**  
**TIME: 11:30 - 13:00**

## Session Objective

The objective of the Leaders' Roundtable is to identify and create avenues for extending regional cooperation across clean energy value chain in South Asia, beyond CBET. The other areas for regional cooperation include grid and power distribution equipment, sustainable transportation, energy efficient appliances and battery storage, can unlock significant opportunities for sustainable energy development, economic growth and employment in South Asia.

## Agenda

11:30 - 11:35	<b>Opening Remarks and Session Overview</b> by <b>Steve Olive</b> , Mission Director, USAID/India and Bhutan
11:35 - 11:45	<b>Context-Setting Presentation</b> by <b>Anish De</b> , USAID's SAREP
11:45 - 12:50	<p><b>Panel Discussion: Expanding regional cooperation across clean energy value chain narrative in South Asia</b>  <b>Moderated by: Anish De and Tanmay Tathagat</b>, USAID's SAREP</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dasho Karma Tshering</b>, Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Government of Bhutan</li> <li>• <b>Dasho Phuntsho Tobgay</b>, Secretary, Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Government of Bhutan</li> <li>• <b>Karma P Dorji</b>, Director General, Department of Energy, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Government of Bhutan</li> <li>• <b>Dasho Chhewang Rinzin</b>, Managing Director, Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC), Bhutan</li> <li>• <b>Manu Shrivastav</b>, Additional Chief Secretary, Energy Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh</li> <li>• <b>Mariyam Shahana</b>, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation, Government of Maldives</li> <li>• <b>Gopal Prasad Sigdel</b>, Secretary, Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transport, Government of Nepal</li> <li>• <b>A K N Wickramasinghe</b>, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Power &amp; Energy, Govt of Sri Lanka</li> <li>• <b>Saket Kumar</b>, IAS, Managing Director, Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam</li> <li>• <b>Jaideep Gupta</b>, Additional Member, Railway Board</li> <li>• <b>Ravindra Kumar</b>, Director Operations, NTPC Ltd</li> <li>• <b>Vishal Kapoor</b>, CEO, Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)</li> <li>• <b>Dr. Narendra De Silva</b>, GM (CEB &amp; LECO), Lanka Electricity Company (Pvt) Ltd (LECO)</li> <li>• <b>Sunil Singhvi</b>, CEO Energy, Secure Meters Limited and President, Indian Electrical and Electronics Manufacturers Association (IEEMA)</li> <li>• <b>Vikram Gandotra</b>, Director (Industry &amp; Policy), Siemens</li> <li>• <b>Sandeep Kumar</b>, Director Finance, PFC</li> <li>• <b>Nanda K Lakkaraju</b>, Managing Director, Carrier Technologies India Limited</li> <li>• <b>Jitender Agrawal</b>, CEO, Surya Roshni</li> <li>• <b>Sriram Rangarajan</b>, Executive Vice President, CG Power and Industrial Solutions Ltd</li> </ul>
12:50 - 13:00	<b>Closing Remarks</b> by <b>Apurva Chaturvedi</b> , Senior Regional Clean Energy Specialist, IPO-USAID/ India

