

13th EU - India Smart Energy Workshop

13 MARCH 2024 (Wed) | 14:00 ~ 17:00

Venue: Crystal – 2, Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
in Collaboration with European Union



BACKGROUND

The current EU-India climate and energy relations are guided by the **India-EU Clean Energy and Climate Partnership (CECP)**, established at the EU-India Summit in March 2016. This partnership aims to reinforce cooperation on clean energy and the implementation of the Paris Agreement by strengthening joint activities for the deployment of climate-friendly energy sources. India and the European Union planned to intensify their partnership, as affirmed during a meeting of the India-EU Energy Panel on 1st December 2021. Key representatives jointly outlined a comprehensive work program to implement the 2016 India-EU CECP.

India holds substantial potential in the realms of Renewable Energy and Green Hydrogen, marking a strategic shift towards sustainable energy in line with the Government of India's efforts on mobilizing these energy sources. Simultaneously, Green Hydrogen emerges as a key player in achieving carbon neutrality, utilizing the renewable energy sources, instead of conventional fuel for hydrogen production.

Session 1: Standards and Regulations for Green Hydrogen

The National Hydrogen Mission, launched in August 2021, aims to position India as a green hydrogen hub by producing 5 million tonnes of green hydrogen by 2030. Green hydrogen and green ammonia are envisioned as future fuels crucial for sustainable energy security. Govt's active thrust towards fostering the shift from fossil fuels to green hydrogen emphasizes recent policy notifications as substantial strides in this transition. With considerable green hydrogen production capacity expected in near future, it would be important to align standards and taxonomy linked to green hydrogen production.

The European Union has demonstrated noteworthy progress in this domain, providing valuable insights that India can leverage for implementation on ground.

Session 2: Regional Energy Connectivity in South Asia - complementing the ongoing work.

EU has been playing a key role across Southeast Asia to help build the institutional capacity of key government agencies and stakeholders through assisting, local and international agencies/foundations for capacity building and enhancing collaboration between key stakeholders across the EU and Southeast Asia. EUs, EU-India CECP project is one such initiative where the objective is to reinforce collaboration between key stakeholders across the EU and India to ensure a clean, affordable, and reliable energy supply for all. The project has undertaken initiatives such as the Smart Grid Observatory and Energy Regulatory workshops to promote dialogue on interconnectivity.

Regional connectivity can significantly enhance opportunities for expanding renewable energy production and distribution by fostering a regionally interconnected power grid system. The BBIN countries, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal, share similar socio-economic characteristics and have significant opportunities to collaborate in the energy sector. The countries possess complementary energy resources in terms of their types and distribution, suggesting a promising outlook for regional connectivity. The rising proportion of variable renewable energy supplies in regional systems has drawn attention to the significance of their interconnection. Integration of intermittent renewable resources (such as wind and solar) is efficiently handled in a larger balancing area that offers better forecasting of generation. A further benefit of interconnected grids may be the ability to import power at a lower cost to replace a nation's expensive domestic generation.

Session 3: Financing Investment in Clean Energy Platform (FICEP)

To develop greater EU-India cooperation on sustainable financing and encourage investment in the field of renewable energy systems and energy efficiency in India and the EU, the India-EU Clean Energy and Climate Partnership (CECP) has set up a first pilot of an EU-India Financing Investment in Clean Energy Platform (FICEP) (<https://www.cecp-eu.in/ficep>). The FICEP's functionalities are: 1) Connecting EU and India, 2) Resources, 3) Success stories, 4) FICEP community, 5) Investment monitoring; and 6) FICEP events.

Initially, FICEP is focused on two areas – **Decentralized Renewable Energy** (off-grid and on-grid) and **Energy**

Efficiency in buildings and industries. The emerging sectors such as **Offshore Wind** and **Green Hydrogen** will be covered under the scope of FICEP.

Discussion Points

1. **Energy Transition Strategies:** Discuss the strategies both the EU and India are implementing to transition to a low-carbon energy system, including renewable energy expansion, energy efficiency improvements, and phasing out of fossil fuels.
2. **Technological Innovations:** Explore the role of innovative technologies in transforming the energy sector, such as offshore wind, green hydrogen, smart grids, energy storage, and digitalization of energy systems.
3. **Policy and Regulatory Frameworks:** Examine the policies and regulatory mechanisms that support the energy transition in the EU and India, including market design, renewable energy incentives, and carbon pricing.
4. **Financing Sustainable Energy:** Discuss the financing models and investment strategies that can support sustainable energy projects and infrastructure, including public-private partnerships, green bonds, and international funding initiatives.
5. **Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing:** Consider the importance of capacity building, research collaboration, and knowledge sharing between the EU and India to foster innovation and best practices in smart energy solutions.
6. **Energy Storage Systems:** EU-India collaboration on energy storage projects in India
7. **Challenges and Barriers:** Identify the key challenges and barriers in implementing smart energy solutions, such as grid integration of renewables, energy security concerns, and socio-economic factors.
8. **Standardization for green hydrogen:** Discussion on standardization for green hydrogen involving exploring industry-wide agreements on production methods, quality benchmarks, and certification processes to ensure consistent markets.
9. **Taxonomy:** Discussions on establishing standards and a clear taxonomy and the importance of defining industry-wide benchmarks for what constitutes "green" hydrogen
10. **The function of regional institutions or forums** in integrating power systems within a region and enabling cross-regional interconnections.
11. **Views on the level of alignment** in policy, regulatory, and legal frameworks, as well as the development of a regional power market structure, to facilitate the cost-effective operation of interconnected grids.
12. **Regional connectivity:** Lessons learned and recommendations for the future.
13. **Discussion on collaborative work** on developing regional connectivity within the South Asian region

AGENDA

14:00 to 14:20 IST	OPENING SESSION Welcome Addresses: Reji Pillai , President, ISGF- Welcome remarks Bartosz Przywara , Counsellor for Energy, Climate Action, Environment, Delegation of the European Union to India (general overview of the EU CECP and EU RE priorities)
14:20 to 15:30 IST	Session 1: Standards and Regulations for Green Hydrogen Keynote Address: Bartosz Przywara , Counsellor for Energy, Climate Action, Environment, Delegation of the European Union to India (EU Green hydrogen policies and priorities) Chair: Prasad Arvind Chaphekar, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Moderator: Rajeev Ralhan, Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd. Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Alexander Pavlov, General Manager, Atlas Copco India (Sweden) – TBD</i> - <i>Paulina Chromik, Second Secretary, Economic and Commercial Department,</i>

	<p><i>Embassy of the Netherlands</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Ranjith Krishna Pai, Scientist F, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India</i> - <i>Mridula Dixit Bharadwaj, Capacity Building Specialist under ADB-ISA Technical Assistance Program, International Solar Alliance (Global perspective)</i> - <i>Someshwer Sharma, Vice President, Avaada Group</i> - <i>Rajat Seksaria, CEO, Green Hydrogen and Derivatives, Adani Group</i> - <i>Rahul Bagdia, Chairman & Managing Director, pManifold Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd</i> - <i>Praseeth Prabhakaran, Project Engineer, DVGW</i> <p><i>Conclusions/Wrap-up by Moderator</i></p>
15:30 to 16:40 IST	<p>Session 2: Regional Energy Connectivity in South Asia</p> <p>Keynote Address: Edwin Koekkoek, Team Leader of Green Inclusive Development and Social Protection, EU Delegation to Bangladesh</p> <p>Moderator – Edwin Koekkoek, Team Leader of Green Inclusive Development and Social Protection, EU Delegation to Bangladesh</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Parul Bakshi, Research Fellow, FSR Global – Energy</i> - <i>Monali Zeya Hazra, Regional Energy and Clean Energy Specialist in the Energy Division of Indo-Pacific Office, USAID</i> - <i>Surbhi Goyal, Senior Energy Specialist, India, World Bank</i> - <i>Jyoti Parikh, Executive Director, IRADe</i> - <i>Pankaj Batra, Senior Advisor, IRADe, Independent Consultant and Ex-Chairperson & Member (Planning) at Central Electricity Authority</i> - <i>SS Barpanda, Director – Market Operations, Grid Controller of India</i> - <i>Mohammed Rezaul Karim Khan, Director (Power), Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission</i> <p><i>Conclusions/Wrap-up by Moderator</i></p>
16:40 to 16:55 IST	<p>A short session on Financing Investment in Clean Energy Platform (FICEP)</p> <p>Speaker: Mr. Nidhin K. Davis, Junior Non-Key Expert, EU – India Clean Energy and Climate Partnership and Senior Consultant, PricewaterhouseCoopers Private Limited</p>
16:55 to 17:00 IST	<p>Closing Remarks: Ms. Smita Singh, Sr. Project Manager, Delegation of the European Union to India</p>

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