

# EnergyMatters

NEWSLETTER  
APRIL - JUNE 2023



## FOCUS

### Pawan-Urja: Powering the Future of India



The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) celebrated 'Global Wind Day' on June 15, 2023, with the central theme of 'Pawan-Urja: Powering the Future of India' in association with Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation (Shakti) and National Institute of Wind Energy (NIWE). The Clean Power Team of Shakti

created a Photo Exhibition Gallery to depict development in Wind Power Sector at the event. Koyel Kumar Mandal, Chief of Programmes, Shakti, moderated the session on 'Wind Energy Progress in India: Learnings from the Success Stories' and Amit Kumar Singh Parihar, Director, Clean Power Programme, Shakti, moderated the session 'Unpacking Green Finance for Wind' at the event. [Read more.](#)

## F20 Climate Solutions Forum 2023

### One Earth, One Family, One Future: Resilience for All

Under India's G20 Presidency, Foundations 20 (F20) hosted its annual flagship event, the 'Climate Solutions Forum', in New Delhi on June 8, 2023. This day-long event, organised in collaboration with Dasra and co-hosted by Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation (Shakti), focused on the theme of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future: Resilience for All.' Its purpose was



to facilitate constructive contributions for the upcoming G20 summit and to highlight key priorities, challenges, and opportunities in global climate action. Shakti curated the session dedicated to addressing the critical issues of 'Climate Change, Cooperation, and a Just Energy Transition.' Against the backdrop of India's G20 Presidency, Shakti curated two high-level panel discussions that explored emerging policy and market scenarios. The first panel discussion, titled 'Promoting a Climate-Responsible Economy: The Role of Trade and Mechanisms like the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)' and the second panel, titled 'Accelerating Green Trade and Investments: Enabling Lifestyles for the Environment (LiFE)'. [Read more.](#)

## Launch of GroW - Greening of Finance by Women as part of Green Indian Financial System (GIFS)



On April 5, 2023, in Mumbai, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), and the Small Industries



Development Bank of India (SIDBI), as part of the Green Indian Financial System (GIFS) Initiative, announced the launch of GroW - Greening of Finance by Women, a professional network seeking to advance and leverage women's participation, leadership, and knowledge in green and climate finance at an event. "Evidence suggests that increased participation and leadership of women have substantially contributed to better risk management, increased stability, and lower emission intensity among businesses and financial institutions. The Greening of finance by Women (GroW) initiative



seeks to promote women experts, knowledge networks and green champions in the financial sector. The initiative will allow for increased scale and pace of a green growth, while attempting to rebalance the current and persistent gender gap,” said Koyel Mandal, Chief of Programmes, Shakti, about the larger impact the network can have in combating climate change. [Read more.](#)

## CENTRESTAGE

### R&D Conclave on Renewable Energy Organised by MNRE in association with Shakti and RTI International

MNRE organised the R&D Conclave, in association with Shakti and RTI International to bring together a diverse set of stakeholders. Vatsala Joseph, Interim CEO, Shakti, opened her remarks by highlighting the ambitious target of 500GW by 2030 & Net Zero 2070 goals. “Our country has the potential to being a global leader in

Renewable Energy,” she said. Dr Ashvini Kumar, Former MD SECI, Technical Advisor, Shakti, moderated the session on ‘Role of Solar Energy in Clean Cooking and Process Heat Applications’ and Koyel Kumar Mandal, Chief of Programmes, Shakti, moderated the session on ‘Enabling Ecosystem for Upscaling Clean Tech Innovations’. [Read more.](#)



### National Climate Conclave 2023 Conclave (NCC2023) Organised by NCSCM MoEFCC and Environment, UP Government, Lucknow

The National Climate Conclave 2023 was jointly organised by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, and the Department of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Government of Uttar Pradesh, and National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), during



April 10–11, 2023, in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. “Now that India has committed to reaching Net Zero emissions by 2070, Shakti and other philanthropies are supporting State Governments in designing and implementing sub-national climate actions to achieve the national goal and 2030 targets. States will have varied responses based on their growth parameters, resource availability and specific circumstances,” said Koyel Kumar Mandal, Chief of Programmes. [Read more.](#)

## Seminar cum Stakeholder Consultation Meeting on Offshore Wind Projects in Gujarat



To facilitate dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders and to discuss opportunities and preparedness for Offshore Wind Projects in Gujarat, Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (GUVNL) and Gujarat Power Corporation Limited (GPCL) jointly conducted a seminar cum stakeholder consultation meeting on May 8, 2023,

at Gandhinagar. Siddharth Arora, Associate Director–Clean Power, Shakti, while speaking on the topic ‘De-risking, Investing and Financing of Offshore Wind Projects’ said, “As India is in the early development stage of Offshore wind projects, it can learn from the European experience of mitigating the risks. Providing policy and regulatory certainty will boost the confidence of investors and developers in the Indian Market.” [Read more.](#)

## Women in Renewable Energy A Dialogue on Policy, Technology, Skilling and Finance on World Environment Day 2023



Ministry for New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) in association with National Research and Development Corporation (NRDC India), on June 5, 2023, World Environment Day, organised a convening ‘A Dialogue on Policy, Technology, Skilling and Finance’, with women leaders and stakeholders across union ministries, state nodal agencies, grassroots organisations, technology-use enablers, and financial institutions. Vatsala Joseph, Interim CEO, Shakti, participating in the session ‘Identifying Pathways for Skilling and Capacity Building’ at the event said, “Besides providing technical training, soft skill training and access to micro finance, it is necessary to encourage women and girls to pursue business



and employment opportunity. Philanthropies can help bridge these gaps by investing in women-centric skill development programmes; building women-led clean energy enterprises; creating mentorship and networking opportunities; addressing social and cultural barrier; and supporting research and evidence building.” [Read more.](#)

## Seminar cum Stakeholder Consultation Meeting on Offshore Wind Projects in Gujarat



TERI and SIMA (Sponge Iron Manufacturers Association) had jointly organised an event titled ‘Accelerating Decarbonisation for India’s Steel Sector’ on May 24, 2023, at Bhubaneswar. During the event, Dr Sachin Kumar, Director, Industry, Building & Cooling Programme, Shakti, moderated the session ‘Manufacture/Technology Perspective’. The session focused on technological options that can help decarbonise the Indian steel sector, especially the role that can be played by the DRI sector in this journey. [Read more.](#)

## Stakeholder Awareness Workshop on Electrification of Trucks for Cement Sector

**Organised by CII, Hyderabad**

Suchitra Subramaniyan, Programme Manager, Electric Mobility, Shakti, delivered the welcome remarks at the Stakeholder Awareness Workshop on Electrification of Trucks for Cement Sector, organised by Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), at Hyderabad International Convention Center (HICC), Hyderabad on May 20, 2023. She said, “To enable a shift



towards electric trucks from ICE for cement logistics, wider acknowledgement and appreciation for the role of e-trucks in the cement sector is a need of the hour. For this, three Cs for cement need to be followed, i.e., Communication, Collaboration and Culture. Effective Communication and Collaboration across all relevant stakeholders in the cement sector, EV manufacturers, fleet operators and other members of the EV ecosystem, and a new approach to a change in Culture, through changed perception, behaviour and attitudes of stakeholders at all levels of the value chain.” [Read more.](#)

## Roundtable: Charting a Course for Sustainable Finance Cooperation Informing the Paris Summit in the backdrop of India’s G20 Presidency

Organised by AFD CEEW and Shakti



Ahead of the G20 Leaders’ Summit in New Delhi in September 2023 (G20 Summit), and the Summit for a New Global Financial Pact in Paris in June (Paris Summit), Shakti, Agence Française de Développement (AfD), and the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) held a roundtable discussion on May 18, 2023, to understand expectations and inform policy discussions. Vatsala Joseph, Interim CEO, Shakti, set the context. She

said, “Global South currencies are losing to the global currencies and this trend means that their existing debts are costlier to repay and borrowing becomes difficult and most nations in the Global South have a reverse trade deficit in terms imports vs exports. Technology transfer, debt financing at low costs is urgently required with longer durations of repayment. Increased liquidity made available to take those steps will ensure concerted efforts in helping the federal structures in these nations to work on slowing down the impacts of climate change.” [Read more.](#)

## Pathways for Lowering Carbon Footprints in Tamil Nadu



Department of Environment, Climate Change & Forest organised an event on June 8, 2023 called 'Carbon Neutral Nilgiris'. The objective was to brainstorm on how the Nilgiri district, one of the 4 districts in Tamil Nadu that intends to become carbon neutral, can move towards the goal of carbon neutrality. Vasudha Foundation undertook a quick analysis and presented the same to the group. Shakti was invited to be part of the discussions.

On 9 June, 2023, Tamil Nadu Governing Council on Climate Change held the first meeting of sectoral sub-committees under the leadership of the Governing Council members. This committee was formed after the first Tamil Nadu Governing Council on Climate Change meeting chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Minister earlier this year in March 2023. This meeting discussed various pathways and strategies that will steer the state towards achieving the goal of Net-Zero. Shakti, as part of the climate finance sub-committee, along with WRI India, presented some ideas to be considered as the state moves towards net neutrality.

## Plenary Session: Electric Transportation in the Global South at the FORTH Mobility Roadmap Conference



Forth Mobility organised their Roadmap Conference on May 15 - 17, 2023, at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon. This Mobility Roadmap Conference is an annual electric transportation event where leaders convene to bring about transformation in the movement of people and goods. The conference brings industry and community leaders together in a highly interactive format to network, forge partnerships, deepen relationships, explore emerging trends, share best practices, and build the road ahead. Priti Shukla, Programme Manager, Electric Mobility, Shakti, was invited to be a part of the panel discussion on 'Electrification in the Global South' where she shared, "Philanthropy as a community needs to unlock four levers in order to maximise its potential and enable it to make a greater impact. Ambition, Action, Accountability and Advocacy - by actively pursuing these four levers and collaborating across regions, we can ensure greatest possible impact on the EV ecosystem." [Read more.](#)



## Accelerating Net Zero Transition of Public Transportation in Kolkata

Organised by TERI



TERI organised a workshop with an aim to address the multifaceted challenges envisaged by the West Bengal Transport Corporation (WBTC) in terms of electrification of public transportation systems in Kolkata, which include induction of electric buses, the revival of the tram network, or electrification of ferries through selection of appropriate technology based on specific segments, innovative procurement, business models, availability of power infrastructure, etc. Priyadarshini Alok, Assistant Programme Manager, Electric Mobility, Shakti, attended the capacity building programme, where she presented the various financial models for deployment of the e-Bus in Kolkata. She said, “The transition to electric buses requires a fundamental shift in financial planning because of multiple emerging business models. The cost structure of bus operations has fundamentally shifted from capital heavy to operationally light. With innovative policy levers, STUs can tap this great opportunity for attracting external capital for e-Bus transition.” [Read more.](#)

## Advancing Electric Mobility Adoption through City Level Actions Rajkot, Surat, Kochi and Delhi, Organised by ICLEI



Cities can also be crucial actors in the acceleration of electric vehicle adoption and for that to be



successful, long-term vision, awareness and education, supported by planning and coordination between city stakeholders during implementation, is required. On May 10, 2023, Vivek Chandran, Director Climate Insights Unit and previously the lead of Cities and Transport, moderated a panel discussion organised by International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), South Asia, to discuss the need for city-level e-mobility action plans and the consideration that could go into their making. He highlighted the unique role of city governments in accelerating the adoption of EVs and hastening the speed at which benefits could be accrued to urban residents. The event was attended by participants from four countries - Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, and India. The online event also included the launch of the Handbook – *Planning Approach to Mainstream E-Mobility Adoption in Indian Cities* ([link](#)). [Read more.](#)

## Shippers Roundtable

Conducted by WRI India and SFC (Smart Freight Centre)



On May 3, 2023, a Shippers Roundtable with Smart Freight Centre (SFC) and WRI India, was organised to discuss the opportunities and challenges of driving freight electrification in India. The event brought together stakeholders from government, industry, and academia to collaborate and accelerate the transition towards sustainable logistics. “Several enablers can help shippers accelerate freight transport decarbonisation in India such as committing to the long-term relation with carriers, reshaping customer behaviour, collaborating with peer shippers, establishing supply-chain emission transparency, and responding to market demands early”, said Narayankumar Sreekumar, Associate Director, Electric Mobility, Shakti. [Read more.](#)

## Integration of Renewable Energy with EV Charging Station Organised by GERMI



Priyadarshini Alok, Assistant Programme Manager, Electric Mobility, Shakti, delivered a welcome address at the training programme on “Integration of Renewable Energy with EV Charging Station” organised by Gujarat Energy Research & Management Institute (GERMI) where she spoke about how Shakti collaborates with civil society, industry, think tanks, and academia to identify and scale energy system interventions that will reduce GHG emissions and tackle climate change. [Read more.](#)

## Launch event of Centre for Sustainable Finance



During the launch of ‘Centre for Sustainable Finance’ by Climate Policy Initiative, India, on April 26, 2023, in Mumbai, Shubhashis Dey, Director Climate Policy and Climate Finance, Shakti, participated in a panel discussion ‘Increasing Green Finance: From ambition to action’. He said, “It is a question worth considering whether policy follows markets or markets follow policy. This varies across different regions and countries. In EU, for example, the ESG and sustainable markets came up and policy was created, and continues to be created, to create guardrails. In the Indian ecosystem, this has been quite the opposite where markets have followed policy signals”. [Read more.](#)



## Roundtable: Evolving Indian Environment and Climate Change Priorities, Canadian priorities, Programming, Possible Opportunities for Collaboration



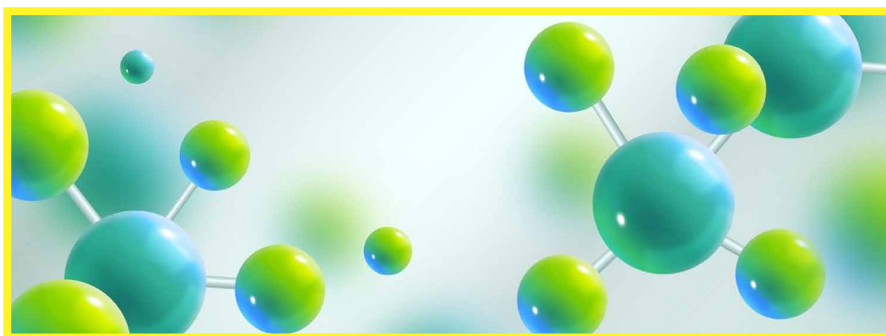
At a roundtable organised to discuss evolving Indian environment and climate change priorities, Canadian priorities, programming, and possible opportunities for collaboration, on the occasion of the visit of Mr Stephen de Boer, Assistant Deputy Minister of International Affairs, Environment and Climate Change Canada, the High Commission of Canada to India, Shubhashis Dey, Director Climate Policy & Climate Finance, Shakti, spoke on India's climate finance state of the sector situation – that India needs an upward of \$150 billion per annum to achieve its NDC commitment and the current flow is around \$45 billion per annum and that private finance flow/ investment from Global North to India at scale is currently missing. He highlighted that the recent protectionist financial policies in Global North have further limited the finance to Global South by creating artificial demand in developed countries. He emphasised that to solve the global climate crisis it is important to move away from the traditional construct of finance and economic rationale to a climate and human first approach. [Read more.](#)

## INSIGHTS

### Article 'Green Hydrogen: A Vital Resource for Achieving India's Low-Carbon Growth' by Riya Bhandari

The pace of India's clean energy transition has accelerated with the announcement of India's short and long-term climate goals at the Conference of Parties (COP)-26 in Glasgow. The 500 GW target of non-fossil installed capacity, reduction of emission intensity by 45% by 2030, and schemes such as Faster Adoption and

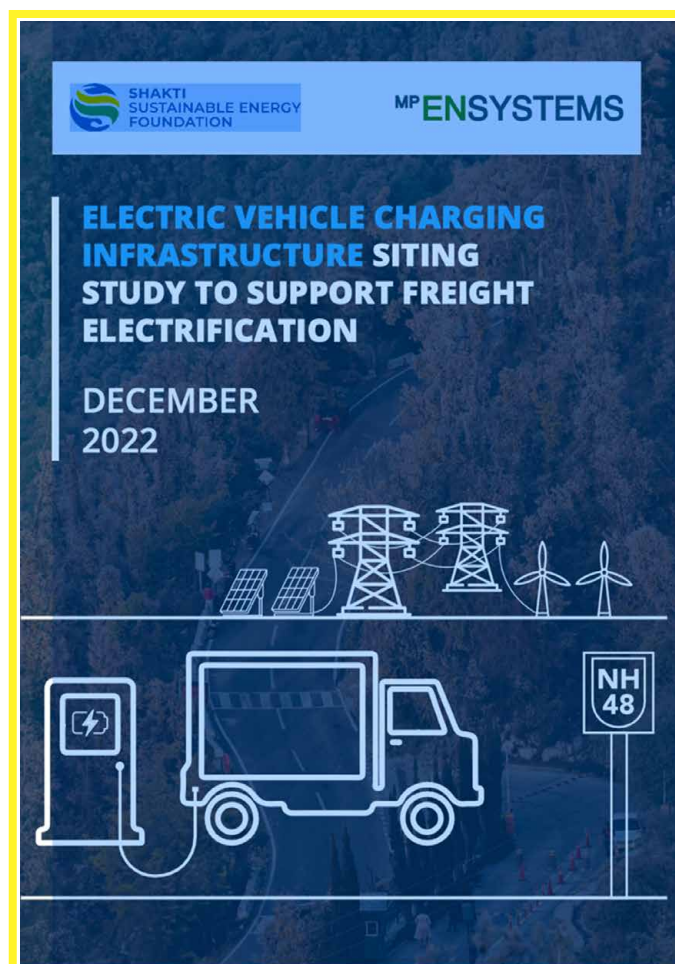
Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME) scheme, Production-linked Incentives (PLI), show that there is a strong push for fulfilling these commitments. Promoting initiatives such as solar, wind, batteries, and energy efficiency have bought momentum in reducing emissions from power, buildings, and transport sectors. Read the article 'Green Hydrogen: A Vital Resource for Achieving India's Low-Carbon Growth' by Riya Bhandari, Assistant Programme Manager–Climate Policy. [Read more](#)



### Report: Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Siting Study to Support Freight Electrification

In 2022, MP Ensystems developed a model to specifically explore EVCI siting for freight transit systems, investment opportunities in specific corridors and policy, finance, social and technical recommendations for stakeholders.

The report 'Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Siting Study to Support Freight Electrification', with strategic inputs from Shakti, consists of a summary that captures the activities and findings of initiative. Each section deals with a specific aspect of developing freight EVCI- including a User Guide for the siting tool, stakeholder inputs on siting requirements, recommendations for EVCI investments, and recommendations to planners. [Read more](#).



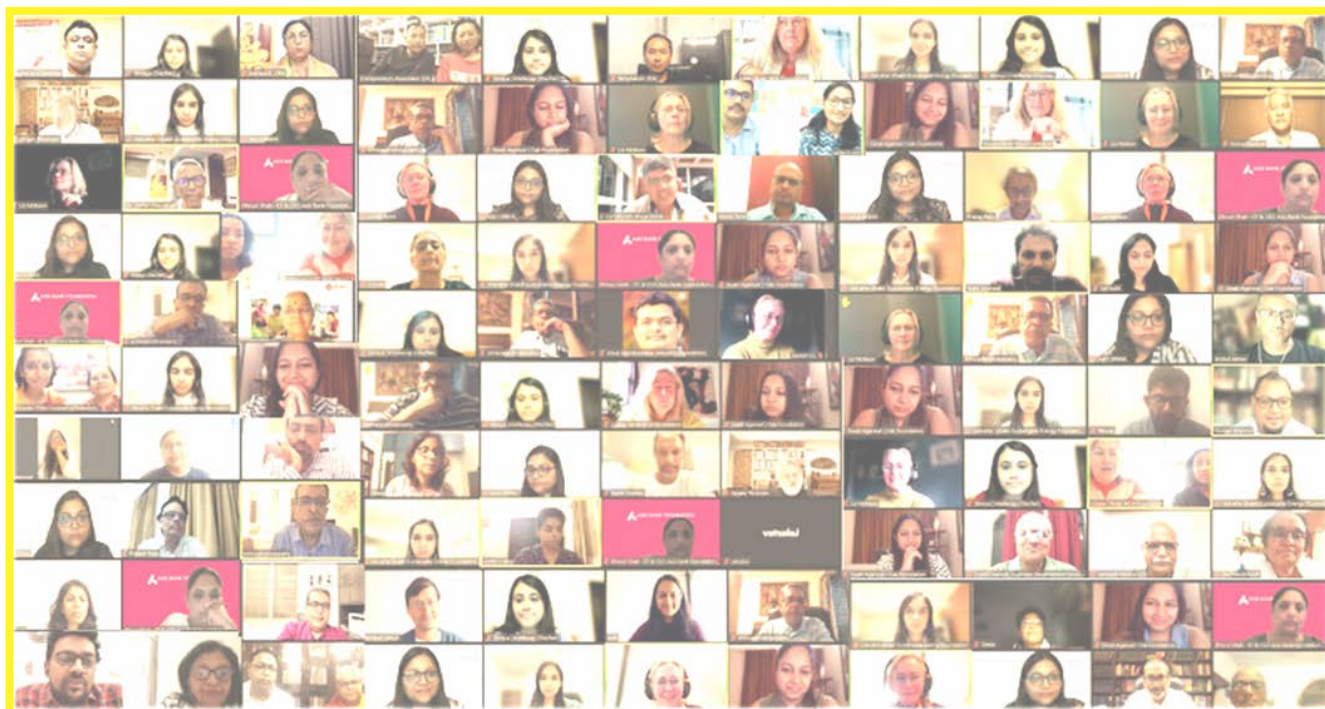


## Paper: Supporting Climate Moonshot Technology Development for Innovation published by Singapore Management University

The Paper presented at the 12th Annual SKBI Conference and first SGFC Regional Conference on Greening Energy Infrastructure, 'Supporting Climate Moonshot Technology Development for Innovation' was co-authored by Kruthika Jerome, Programme Manager, Climate Finance, Shakti and Shubhashis Dey, Director, Climate Policy and Climate Finance, Shakti along with other authors, was published by Singapore Management University website <https://www.singaporegreenfinance.com/research/>. [Read more](#)



## Winners of ACCLIMATE Challenge Fund



We are proud to announce the winners of the ACCLIMATE Challenge Fund, a competitive, bottom-up process initiated by Shakti in November 2022, to identify Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in India who are committed to expanding their work on various aspects of climate change.

Our expert panel has selected the following organisations as the winners of the Challenge Fund:

1. The Climate Agenda (TCA)
2. Dakshin Foundation
3. Gujarat State Women's Sewa Co-Operative Federation Limited (SEWA)
4. Project Concern International (PCI)
5. Clean Energy Access Network (CLEAN)
6. Climate Collective Foundation (CCF)
7. The Entrepreneurs Associates (tEA)
8. Pedal for a Change

Shakti congratulates all the winners of the Challenge Fund. [Read more.](#)

## Masterclass by Shubhashis Dey

### Accelerating Climate Action with Financial Innovation: Opportunities and Challenges

Organised by Impact Academy, Facilitated by Shakti



A masterclass on 'Accelerating Climate Action with Financial Innovation: Opportunities and Challenges' was organised by Impact Academy and facilitated by Shakti. The interactive master class was conducted by Shubhashis Dey, Director, Climate Policy and Climate Finance, Shakti, and attended by about 100 participants. Shubhashis spoke about the mainstreaming of global ESG investments and funds reaching tens of trillion dollars. [Read more.](#)



## Shakti Annual Report 2022: Shakti Dialogues



Know about Shakti as an organisation, about its people and its relevant and impactful areas of focus.  
[Read the complete Shakti Annual Report 2022.](#)

## Human Resources: New Joiners



**Rishabh Sethi** joined as Programme Manager in the Electric Mobility team



**Palak Passi** joined as Assistant Programme Manager in the Electric Mobility team

[Read more](#)

