

Concept Note

India has set ambitious targets for reducing its carbon footprint. As per the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) targets, India is expected to reduce its CO₂ intensity by 33% (from 2005 levels) and increase its fossil free capacity to 40% by 2030. While these targets are commendable, it is imperative that India transitions towards sustainable energy systems beyond the NDCs and 2030 timeline. It must take advantage of technology developments around the world to leapfrog into an advanced system that brings a better quality of life to all its citizens.

Despite efforts by the Government of India to support this, the transition away from conventional systems has been slow and incremental. If we are to facilitate lasting, transformative changes, we must explore transformative and non-linear changes that go beyond 2030. Thus, it is important to initiate this process soon so that key stakeholders can align their efforts.

With this goal in mind, the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP) and Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation (SSEF) propose the formation of the **India Energy Transformation Platform (IETP)**. This initiative is being supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). IETP will be an informal, independent, multi-stakeholder group that meets periodically to discuss transformative opportunities in the energy sector and develops a joint narrative on India's strategy for NDCs and beyond.

IETP will attempt to explore non-linear thinking and focus on themes across the energy system such as grid of the future, integrated resource planning, rural energy access, sustainable transport, energy storage and end-user energy efficiency.

Some of IETP's activities may include:

- Collating ideas, trends, insights, and outlooks across different energy segments;
- Defining boundary conditions and non-negotiables for India's future energy sector;
- Helping members convey IETP's recommendation at appropriate venues.
- Encouraging discussions and debates on the inter-linkages of energy with water, electricity, transportation, planning, health, trade, commerce and industry, and consumer behaviour.

Hence, we believe that IETP is a unique initiative which can take India ahead of the curve and solidify its leadership in the clean energy transition.