

## Towards Sustainable Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE): Planning Energy Transition in Developing Nations

Indian Pavilion: COP27  
November 8, 2022

Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation (Shakti), Himadri Energy International and Renew Power jointly organised a side event at COP27 titled 'Towards Sustainable Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE): Planning energy transition in developing nations' on November 8, 2022, at COP27.



Mr Koyel Kumar Mandal, Chief of Programmes, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, provides the opening remarks.

This event showcased India's progress toward its climate goals spurred by technological innovation and the country's rich traditional wisdom and climate-friendly practices. It also emphasised the adoption of an environment-conscious lifestyle while fulfilling developmental goals. Panellists

reflected on learnings from the energy transition pathways of various developing nations including India with a special focus on availability and implementation of leapfrog technologies as well as short-term and long-term low-carbon pathways.

The event was inaugurated by Lord Adair Turner who chairs the Energy Transitions Commission, a global coalition working on achievable pathways to limit global warming while stimulating economic development and social progress. It consisted of two panel discussions, the first on techno-economic aspects of mitigating climate change titled 'From Planning to Action: Financing the Energy Transition in the Developing World.' This discussion was moderated by Mr Koyel Kumar Mandal, Chief of Programmes, Shakti and included perspectives from Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General of International Solar Alliance, Ms Suman Sharma, Managing Director of Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI), Mr Zira John Quaghe, Climate Policy, Nigerian Ministry of Environment and Energy Transition Office, Mr Santanu Gupta, Chief General Manager (Alternate Energy & Sustainable Development), Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Mr Edgar van de Brug, Programme Manager, Climate Action, IKEA Foundation. Emphasising the role of India's traditional practices and women in driving the fight against climate change, Ms Vaishali Nigam Sinha, Chief Sustainability Officer, ReNew Power presented a video on the life of women salt pan workers in India and how these women were empowered socially and financially by skilling them to address climate change.

The second panel discussion titled 'Role of Women in Delivering Secure, Affordable, and Sustainable Energy Future', moderated by Mr Anurag Tiwari, Director, Himadri Energy International Pvt. Ltd. showcased the role of women and vulnerable communities in planning and implementing measures of the energy transition. The panel comprised Ms Yamide Dagnet, Director, Climate Justice, Open Society Foundation, Mr Ankan Mitra, Head, Regulatory Affairs, Tata Steel Limited, Mr Pinaki Dasgupta, Senior Consultant, Council on

Climate Change, Environment and Water, ASSOCHAM, Dr Irina Fedorenko, Founder and Co-CEO, Vlinder Climate, and Ms Daljeet Kaur, Climate and Environment Advisor, Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office. The concluding address was presented by Mr Sachin Kumar Associate Director, Energy Efficiency, Shakti.

It is evident that developing nations like India need comprehensive technical and financial support since they have huge developmental needs and their per capita energy consumption is very low. The transition towards a low-carbon system needs to be cautious and ambitious, accompanied by a closer look at the environmental advantages, policy interventions for minimal loss of livelihood, and preparing a skilled workforce. A socioeconomic lens will be key to ensuring equitable benefits across classes. To have sustained implementation of climate goals, there is a need to integrate low-carbon targets into developmental goals.