

## Workshop-cum-Consultation on Addressing Current Gaps in realizing Just Energy Transition

Magnolia Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023

### Background

Worldwide, there is an increasing consensus among the nations to limit the impact of climate change collaboratively as joint initiatives as well as at national levels. At the most recent Conference of Parties in 2022 (COP 27), India communicated its updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In keeping with this pledge, India's vision and approaches towards reaching net-zero by 2070, were widely communicated. India's vision of low carbon development is based on the need to ensure India's high energy needs for development like energy security, poverty eradication, worker rights, livelihood generation and sustainable economic growth.

Along with equitable distribution of wealth and the need for an inclusive policy focus, the need to think critically about urban transition issues takes center stage in India's planning. Cities use a lot of energy and are one of the biggest polluters with their increasing transport, utilities and infrastructural energy needs.

In making the shift to renewable energy, India has to manage the disruption of long-standing institutional arrangements in ways that enable clean energy in a sustainable manner. To take the example of the transport sector, for sustainable transport options in the mainstream reality, institutional reforms backed by a robust policy reform is urgently required. There should be emphasis on creating city-specific, low-carbon mobility solutions with focus on inclusivity, innovation and livelihood creation. In India, the government has been proactively making significant changes in the auto industry's energy mix with environment-friendly fuels like CNG, electric, hydrogen, ethanol coming to the fore. Like sector specific interventions, a holistic approach complemented by interlinking aspects like gender, convenience, socio-economic transition are needed to for a Just Transition. The huge gender divide in the entire economic sector is in itself a major area of concern, without which the transformation will not take off. At the policy level, this integrated vision reinforces the fact that it is not the technology of an energy source, but the scale and nature of its implementation that decides its ecological footprint. Energy transitions have the potential to positively impact many cross cutting intersectional issues including minimizing the gender gap, equal employment opportunities and compensation, the higher engagement of women across diverse levels and sectors which will spur countrywide growth and advancement.

Recently, a number of announcements have been made in the space of green energy transition, specially during India's leadership with the G 20 presidency. It was a watershed moment for India charting out the future roadmap for an inclusive, multi-sectoral growth with a focus on the wellbeing of its citizens in this space. There are, however, many missing factors in a smooth transition that still needs to be addressed. The objectives of this workshop-cum-consultation is to

- identify the gaps and missing factors in the energy transition process;
- understand region specific challenges that are present deterrents in planning for transition; and
- find workable solutions and collaborations, through exchange of ideas and best practices, for just energy transition.

This stakeholder consultation will also present the findings of the projects *EV-olution: Aligning the Just Energy Transition (JET) Agenda in the Electric Mobility Ecosystem with the G20 Framework* and *Women in Energy Transition: Dialogues for a Just Transition Towards Environmentally Sustainable Economies and Societies for All* which focussed on two of the key areas for a Just Transition conducted by FES in partnership with CUTS International and Sustainable Design Research Consortium respectively.

## Agenda

<b>Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>	
0930 – 1000h	Registration
1000 – 1045h	<p><b>Setting the context</b></p> <p>Introductory Remarks <i>by</i> <i>Richard Kaniewski, Deputy Country Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, India</i></p> <p>Sharing of research findings</p> <p>I. EV-olution: Aligning the Just Energy Transition (JET) Agenda in the Electric Mobility Ecosystem with the G20 Framework <i>by Sucharita Bhattacharjee, CUTS International</i></p> <p>II. Women in Energy Transition: Dialogues for a Just Transition Towards Environmentally Sustainable Economies and Societies for All <i>by Sanjukta Mukherjee, Sustainable Design Research Consortium (SDRC)</i></p>
1045 – 1115h	<b>Q&amp;A session</b>
1115 – 1145h	Networking with Tea & Coffee
1145 – 1300h	<p><b>Fish Bowl – “Reimagining the circle”</b></p> <p>Exploring questions and responses on current challenges and gaps in Just Energy Transition plan in the Indian context.</p> <p><i>Participants come out of the fish bowl, one at a time.</i></p> <p><i>Each participant answers a question and asks a question related to research/plans/policies around just energy transition in the country. The round is over when all participants have answered and asked a question at least once.</i></p> <p><i>The idea is to break the ice between different types of stakeholders, get varied perspectives and move beyond the usual set of questions and responses. As participants come from different geographies within the country, cross- learning is enabled.</i></p> <p><i>Moderated by: Sanjukta Mukherjee and Baishali Lodh Chowdhury</i></p>
1300 – 1400h	Lunch
1400 – 1600h	<p><b>World café – “The missing link”</b></p> <p>What is missing from Just Energy Transition vision in terms of 1) gender inclusivity, 2) technology adoption, 3) workers interest and 4) urban transition?</p>

	<p><i>Four tables, each table addresses one theme. Four rounds of 25 mins each, each round to take up the below listed factor. Participants are divided into four groups. They begin with one theme / table and at the end of each round, shift to another theme/table. This ensures the contribution of all participants at all the tables. The tables should build on the insights from the previous round and have focused discussions on the given themes.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1. Missing actors/ actor mapping</i></li> <li><i>2. Missing processes (+ missing data, missing research etc.)</i></li> <li><i>3. Narratives beyond the metropolitan / geographic imbalances</i></li> <li><i>4. Joint / bi-lateral partnerships disconnect with national priorities</i></li> </ol> <p><i>Table Hosts: Mandvi Kulshreshtha, Satrajit Sanyal, Akash Sharma, Baishali Lodh Chowdhury</i></p>
1600 – 1630h	Tea break
1630 - 1700h	<p>Presentations by table host</p> <p>End of the day</p>
<b>Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023</b>	
1000 – 1015h	<p>Recap of previous day</p> <p><i>By Akash Sharma</i></p>
1015 – 1100h	<p><b>Break out groups – “Conversation of possibilities”</b></p> <p>What can be done to ensure 1) gender inclusivity, 2) technology adoption, 3) workers interest and 4) urban transition in Just Energy Transition plans</p> <p><i>Four tables, each table addresses one theme. Conversation of possibilities involves rapid thinking from participants to come up with solutions or plans or ideas. Each table to explore roles of stakeholders, collaborations, addressing research gaps, implementation strategies, financing models and administrative structures etc. with respect to each theme. Four rounds of 10 mins each. After every round, the participants move to another table.</i></p> <p><i>Rapporteur to take notes.</i></p> <p><i>Moderated by: Sucharita Bhattacharjee and Satrajit Sanyal</i></p>
1100 – 1130h	Tea break
1130 – 1200h	Presentations from Break out groups by rapporteur
1200 – 1330h	<p><b>Just Energy Transition Pathways</b></p> <p>Panel discussion moderated by Dr. Judhajit Sanyal, Senior Data Scientist &amp; Researcher, Mestastop</p>

	<p><b>Role of private sector for livelihood generation and entrepreneurship development leveraging just energy transition</b> – by <i>Kaushik Sanyal, Country Head, Tata Power</i></p> <p><b>Electrification of the Construction Equipment Segment in India - Making Energy Transition Inclusive</b> by <i>Yuvraj Sarda, Head - E-mob Solutions, Volvo Construction Equipment</i></p> <p><b>Gender Mainstreaming in the Clean Energy Sector</b>, by <i>Dr. N.A . Arivukkarasi, Madras School of Social Work</i></p> <p><b>EV-Ready India: Tracking India's comprehensive, equitable, and just transition to an electric mobility future</b> by <i>Neha Gupta, Lead, Centre for Clean Mobility</i></p> <p><b>Accelerating government support measures to attract private investment in clean energy transitions</b> by <i>Siddharth Goel, Senior Policy Advisor, IISD</i></p> <p><i>Each panelist gets 5-7 mins to present their input.</i></p> <p>Q&amp;A session</p>
1330 – 1400h	<p>Concluding session and way forward <i>by Mandvi Kulshreshtha, FES India</i></p> <p>Followed by lunch</p>

**About organisers**

**CUTS International** is a think-tank and advocacy organization that provides a voice to the voiceless to express their developmental needs and promotes the ideals of inclusive growth and development. Established in 1983, as a rural development communication initiative, CUTS is currently at the cutting edge of consumer movement in India as well as across the globe. CUTS Mission is “Consumer Sovereignty in the Framework of Social Justice, Economic Equality and Environmental Balance, Within and Across Borders”. In all its endeavours, CUTS follows the method of research based advocacy and connects the grassroots with national and international policymaking processes.

**Sustainable Design Research Consortium (SDRC)** is a non-partisan, not-for-profit civil society led consortium of Policy Specialists, CSR Assessors, Engineers, Architects, Technology Professionals, Data & Information Scientists and Management Systems Consultants who are united by and dedicated to the application to the Principles of Design, for utilizing cumulative knowledge and experiences across sectors and domains to develop sustainable ecology in climate and gender responsive entrepreneurship, Inclusivity circles with corporates and civil society players, climate resilient governance system design for professionally managed entities and institutions to foster SDG aligned transformation at multiple stakeholder ecosystems.

**Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung** is a non-profit German foundation, committed to the values of democracy and social justice. It was founded in 1925 and is named after Germany’s first democratically elected President, Friedrich Ebert. FES India is committed to building platforms of mutual trust for open debate and the exchange of new ideas. Using workshops, seminars, exchange programmes, and academic papers, FES India offers nuanced socio-economic analyses and fosters debates on a national, regional and global level.