



A Tribute to International Women's Day 2021

International Webinar on

ROLE OF WOMEN IN BUILDING AN ENERGY CONSCIOUS SOCIETY

Tentative Date and Time: 10 March 2021 from 2.30-4.00 pm

Background

Energy plays a vital role in poverty eradication, economic growth, sustainable infrastructure development of any country. Women play an important role as agents of change. Bangladesh is not an exception. With remarkable progress in economic development and poverty alleviation, Bangladesh has already set a clear guiding path towards prosperity and human development. Development in power sector is still mostly treated as gender-neutral, based on the assumption that energy impacts men and women in similar ways leading to “gender-blind” initiatives. However, women and men often have distinct variation in relation to energy production and usage patterns.

Bangladesh has met all the criteria to graduate to ‘Developing country’ from ‘low income country (LDC) status’ this year. It is also important that the development trajectory is sustainable through environmentally sound, equitable and economic provision of energy for the longer term. Development of a society, which is equally energy conscious and promotes responsible generation and use of energy is thus crucial. Gender should be considered as ‘critical element’ towards designing that path and sustaining impact, since ‘women’ are the ‘key enabler’ in development of such a conducive society.

Host of the Initiative

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency is one of the core areas of German Development Cooperation in Bangladesh. The Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programme (REEEP II) is a bilateral technical cooperation programme between German and Bangladesh Government, implemented by GIZ on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). REEEP II works with Bangladesh Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources (MPEMR) to strengthen its efforts for sustainable energy development. Together with public, private and civil society actors, the programme provides strategic advice and implementation support for a national level awareness campaign on energy efficiency and conservation as well as smooth implementation of ‘National Dissemination of Solar Rooftop Systems under Net Metering Guideline’. Capacity Development of relevant government agencies,



private sector and civil society actor is one of the core interventions of REEEP II Programme. Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority (SREDA) is the Executive Agency of REEEP II Programme on behalf of the Bangladesh Government.

The International Webinar is organized by SREDA in collaboration with GIZ REEEP II.

Objective of the Webinar

- Understanding the nexus between Gender and Clean Energy
- Exploring how access to energy impacts women
- Learning the gender dimensions of energy consumption, and context in Bangladesh
- Understanding the need to include gender dimensions in power sector policy making
- Understanding the role of women in developing a society with responsible energy use

Expected attendees

- Officials from SREDA, Power Ministry and utilities
- Officials from relevant Government Ministries
- Development Partners
- Private Sector
- Civil Society

Format

- Welcome address from SREDA
- Key note presentation
- Moderated panel discussion
- Question and answer session
- Closing remarks

Key Note Presentation

- Ms. Christine Lins, Executive Director, Global Women's Network for Energy Transition (GWNET)

Prospective Panelists (tbd/ tbc)

- Ms. Asma Huque, Prokousholi Sangshad Limited / tbd
(Expertise: ADB study Gender Equality Diagnostic of Selected Sectors, Women in private sector energy)
- Ms. Maheen Sultan, Lead Researcher, Gender and Social Transformation Cluster, BRAC Development Institute, BRAC University/ CPD
Or
Professor Dr. Niaz Ahmed Khan, Professor, Development Studies, Dhaka University
(Expertise: Gender and Policy Making)



- Ms. Hasin Jahan, Country Director, Water Aid
(Expertise: Energy access and gender)
- Ms. Farzana Mamtaz, Member (Joint Secretary), Energy Efficiency and Conservation, SREDA
(Expertise: Energy efficiency, government policy making)

Chief Guests

Ms. Juena Aziz, Chief Coordinator for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Affairs, Prime Minister's Office (PMO)

Special Guests

- Secretary, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA)
- Mr. Md. Habibur Rahman, Secretary, Power Division, MPEMR
- Dr. Angelika Fleddermann, Country Director, GIZ Bangladesh

Chair

- Mr. Mohammad Alauddin, Chairman, Sustainable and Renewable Energy Development Authority (SREDA), Power Division, Government of Bangladesh

Moderation

Ms. Salima Jahan, Member (Joint Secretary), Renewable Energy, SREDA

Mode

Due to the ongoing Covid 19 – the webinar will be conducted via virtual medium, through the software Microsoft Teams. Invited attendees will be briefed about joining the workshop prior to the event. Housekeeping Rules will be communicated during the webinar.

The webinar will be recorded and further shared in SREDA website and official social media channels.

Duration

1-1.5 hours

Proposed Date

10 March 2021 (or any other date close to International Women's Day and GIZ Gender Week)