



# EVALUATION OF SDG7 POLICIES AND PROGRAMS IN ASIA PACIFIC – SESSION III

On March 20, 2024, Energy Evaluation Asia Pacific (EEAP) hosted its 3rd webinar session, focusing on "Evaluation of SDG7 Policies and Programs in Asia Pacific." This engaging webinar featured two esteemed speakers from South Asia: Fayyaz Ahmed, MEL Coordinator at Mercy Corps from Pakistan, and Sadeep Acharya, Managing Director of Jalpadevi Auto Repairing Center Pvt. Ltd from Nepal.

Fayyaz's presentation delved into evaluating SDG 7 at the policy level, drawing insights from policy briefs supporting the UN High-Level Political Forum 2023. Sadeep shed light on the challenges and opportunities in tracking energy access in remote areas of Nepal.



The webinar served as a valuable platform for knowledge-sharing on policymaking to achieve the SDG7 goal of universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy by 2030. It also underscored the importance of a balancing innovation, collaboration, and continuous evaluation in the journey towards sustainable energy solutions. This document encapsulates the key discussion points from the webinar.



## Webinar Agenda

| Time (IST)     | Sessions/Speakers   |
|----------------|---|
| 10:00-10:05 am | Welcome Remarks & Context Setting   |
|                | <b>Edward Vine</b> , Affiliate, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL)<br>and Steering Committee Member, Energy Evaluation Asia Pacific (EEAP)                              |
|                | Presenters  |
| 10:05-10:45 am | <ol> <li>Fayyaz Ahmed, MEL Coordinator at Mercy Corps, Evaluation Expert<br/>at Madiba Group Germany, "Evaluating SDG7 at the Policy Level"</li> </ol>                            |
|                | <ol> <li>Sadeep Acharya, Managing Director, Jalpadevi Auto Repairing<br/>Center Pvt. Ltd. "Challenges and Opportunities in Tracking<br/>Energy Access in Remote Areas"</li> </ol> |
|                | Moderated Audience Q&A  |
| 10:45-11:00 am | Moderated by <b>Edward Vine,</b> Affiliate, Lawrence Berkeley National<br>Laboratory (LBNL) and Steering Committee Member, Energy Evaluation<br>Asia Pacific (EEAP)               |
|                | Concluding Comments & Vote of thanks  |
| 11:00 am       | <b>Edward Vine</b> , Affiliate, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL)<br>and Steering Committee Member, Energy Evaluation Asia Pacific (EEAP)                              |

### **Introduction and Context Setting**

Edward Vine, Affiliate, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) and Steering Committee Member, Energy Evaluation Asia Pacific (EEAP)



Edward Vine, a member of the Steering Committee for EEAP, cordially

greeted the participants and speakers, introduced EEAP and provided a context of the webinar on the evaluation of SDG7.

#### Context:

Providing a background of the webinar, Edward shared that as a key constituent of SDG7, energy efficiency contributes directly or indirectly to achieving all the other SDGs, many of which are interconnected across the three dimensions of environmental sustainability, human development and sustainable growth. Edward also shared the importance of



evaluation for SDGs, and highlighted some of the key challenges in evaluating SDGs including the complexity of the goals with multiple actors, objectives and programs and the difficulties in evaluating intersectionality, and evaluating topics related to vulnerability, exclusion and gender. He further shared about unique the opportunities for SDGs evaluation.



#### Introduction to Energy Evaluation Asia Pacific (EEAP)

Ed also introduced EEAP to the participants. Established as a non-profit organization in 2018, EEAP is driven by a clear mission: to take a leadership role in advancing the practice and capacity for objective evaluation within the energy efficiency and renewable energy program and policy sphere.

EEAP actively pursues its mission by organizing a range of initiatives, including workshops, conferences, webinars, websites, and other web-based tools. These efforts are strategically designed to nurture the growth of self-sustaining evaluation communities throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

EEAP's leadership is characterized by two distinguished committees: a dynamic ninemember Steering Committee and an Advisory Committee consisting of 25 members representing 18 countries. This collaborative structure ensures that EEAP effectively fulfills its mission and promotes the widespread adoption of rigorous evaluation practices in the energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors.

Furthermore, Ed also shared updates about the second installment of the SDG7 webinar, planned for 31<sup>st</sup> of January and encouraged attendees to stay updated on EEAP's events through official website and social media platforms.



## Presentation by Speakers

#### **Evaluating SDG7 at the Policy Level**

Fayyaz Ahmed, MEL Coordinator at Mercy Corps, Pakistan

Fayyaz provided an insightful overview of the key learnings, insights, and recommendations outlined in the policy briefs prepared by the SDG7 Technical Advisory Group to support the UN High-Level Political Forum 2023. He highlighted critical statistics from the report related to SDG7



indicators, emphasizing that despite the implementation of innovative policies and technologies, global progress towards achieving SDG7 goals remains inadequate. Additionally, he underscored the progress made for key SDG7 indicators between 2016 and 2021.

Moving forward, Fayyaz explored priority actions recommended for the Asia-Pacific region over a three-year period. These actions included enhancing electricity access in

underserved areas, implementing supportive policies and regulations for clean cooking technologies, promoting the adoption energy-efficient of appliances and lighting systems, and fostering the development of local renewable energy markets, among others. He concluded his presentation by addressing the policy implications and recommendations outlined in the report for the Asia-Pacific region.

| Recommended Actions on Priority   | Ahmed Fary |
|---|------------|
| <ul> <li>Improve enabling environments for clean energy development</li> <li>Use connectivity as a tool for supporting the energy transition</li> <li>Mobilize investment and finance</li> <li>Ensure a just energy transition</li> </ul> |            |

#### **Challenges and Opportunities in Tracking Energy Access in Remote Areas** Sadeep Acharya, Managing Director, Jalpadevi Auto Repairing Center Pvt. Ltd



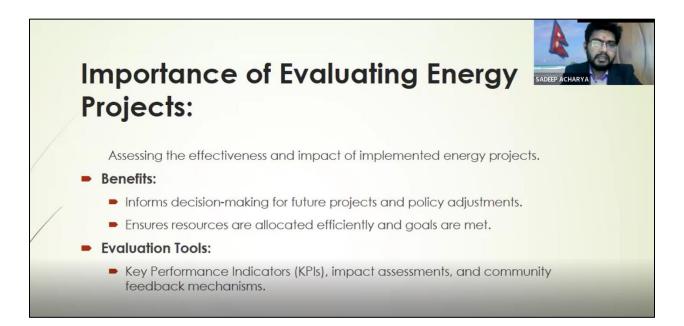
Sadeep initiated his discussion by underlining the significance of addressing energy access in remote regions, emphasizing its pivotal role in enhancing living standards, fostering economic development, and promoting environmental sustainability. He outlined the challenges associated with tracking energy access in such areas, which must be addressed to ensure effective policy implementation and program

success. These obstacles encompass geographical isolation, inadequate infrastructure, difficulties in data collection, and elevated implementation costs, among others.



Furthermore, Sadeep shed light on the potential opportunities for enhancing energy access in remote regions. He proceeded to delineate various technological solutions tailored for these areas, including solar energy, biogas systems, microgrids, and small hydropower installations. Additionally, he underscored the significance of data and monitoring tools in providing real-time insights into energy consumption patterns, facilitating proactive responses to fluctuations in demand or system performance.

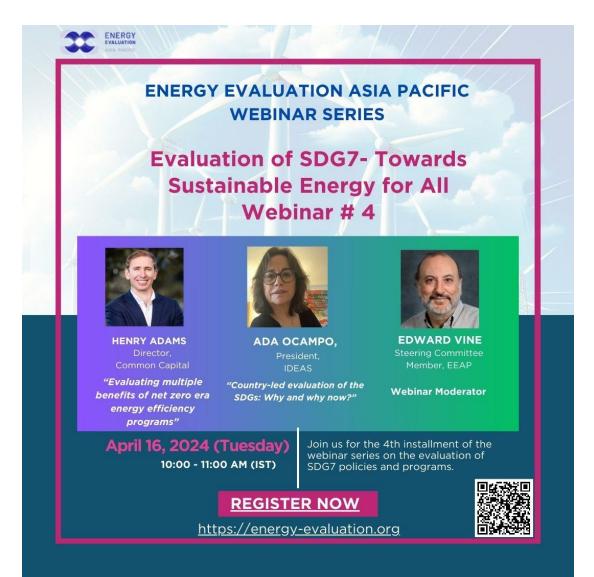
Emphasizing the crucial role of evaluation in energy projects, Sadeep elucidated how it informs decision-making for future endeavors and policy adjustments. Moreover, he highlighted its role in ensuring the efficient allocation of resources and the attainment of project objectives.





# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Session # 4 of Webinar series on Evaluation of SDG7 Towards Sustainable Energy for All (4)
- Date: March 20, 2024 (Wednesday) | Time: 10:00 AM 11:00 AM IST (Indian Standard Time)
- Registration Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwscO-grDwoHd31vgdVsIHNPoT6PImPUPKn





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