SUMMARY NOTES

EEAP WEBINAR 19

Evaluation of Energy Program and Policies - Insights on Evaluating Energy Efficiency and Demand Response

On July 9, 2025, the Energy Evaluation Asia Pacific (EEAP) hosted its 19th webinar, focusing on the topic of 'Insights on Evaluating Energy Efficiency and Demand Response Programs'.

The session featured two distinguished speakers:

- **Lorenzo Daieff**, Senior Consultant at Dunsky Energy + Climate Advisors
- **Teevrat Garg,** Associate Professor of Economics at the School of Global Policy and Strategy at the University of California, San Diego

Edward Vine opened the session by introducing EEAP's mission to promote objective evaluation of energy efficiency and renewable energy programs across the region. He highlighted the importance of evaluating energy efficiency and demand response programs, critical tools in the global energy transition.

Lorenzo Daieff presented findings from a North American study on evolving evaluation practices. He highlighted the need to shift from traditional audit-focused models to more flexible, learning-oriented approaches that support decarbonization, equity, and innovation in energy program design.

Teevrat Garg shared results from three experiments in Vietnam, India, and California, showing how behavioral nudges, smart technologies, and automated systems can enhance demand response. He emphasized the value of cost-effective, scalable solutions tailored to emerging economy contexts.

The webinar offered a compelling look at evolving practices in energy program evaluation and demand response, highlighting innovative strategies and real-world applications. It provided valuable insights for policymakers, researchers, and practitioners committed to advancing sustainable and equitable energy systems.

This document summarizes the key discussion points from the webinar.

Webinar Agenda

Time (PDT)	Sessions/Speakers
9:00-9:05 AM	**Welcome Remarks & Context Setting** ***Edward Vine**, Affiliate, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) and Steering Committee Member, Energy Evaluation Asia Pacific (EEAP)*
9:05-9:40 AM	**Presenters** ***1.*** **Lorenzo Daieff**, Senior Consultant at Dunsky Energy + Climate Advisors ***Discussion Topic: "Are Evaluation, Measurement and Verification (EM&V) practices ready for the energy transition?Key findings from a North American jurisdictional scan"*** ***2.*** **Teevrat Garg,** Associate Professor of Economics at the School of Global Policy and Strategy at the University of California, San Diego **Discussion Topic: "*Demand Response in Action"***
9:40-9:55 AM	**Moderated Audience Q&A** Moderated by ***Edward Vine***
10:00 AM	**Concluding Comments & Vote of thanks** ***Edward Vine***

Introduction and Context Setting

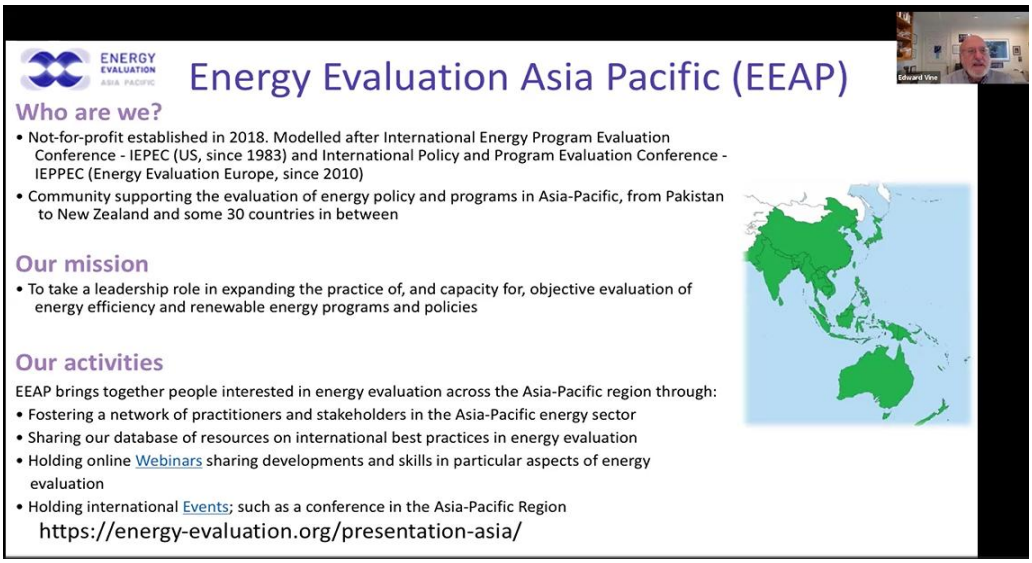
Edward Vine, Affiliate, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) and Steering Committee Member, Energy Evaluation Asia Pacific (EEAP)

Ed Vine, a member of the Steering Committee for EEAP, greeted the participants and speakers, introduced EEAP and provided a context of the webinar.

Introduction to Energy Evaluation Asia Pacific (EEAP)

Ed introduced EEAP to the participants. Established as a non-profit organization in 2018, and modelled after IEPEC (US, since 1983) and IEPPEC (Europe, since 2010), EEAP is focused on expanding the practice of objective evaluation in the Asia Pacific region. EEAP's mission is to lead in expanding evaluation practices, building capacity, and understanding the impact of energy efficiency and renewable energy programs and policies, aiming to provide a strong evidence basis for continuous improvement in these areas.

EEAP fosters exchange and interaction among evaluators, NGOs, government agencies, and academics to promote the value of energy evaluation and capacity building. EEAP offers a database of resources on best practices, holds webinars on various topics, and organizes international events and conferences, particularly in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). EEAP brings stakeholders together to support data-driven decision-making in the energy sector. One of its main objectives is capacity building, especially in the rapidly growing Asia Pacific region.



Introducing the webinar, Ed shared that the 19th webinar in the series focused on evaluating energy efficiency and demand response programs, critical tools in the global energy transition. Edward also previewed upcoming events, including a webinar on non-energy impacts, and introduced the two featured speakers, Lorenzo Daieff and Teevrat Garg, highlighting their expertise and the relevance of their work to the audience.

Presentation by Speakers

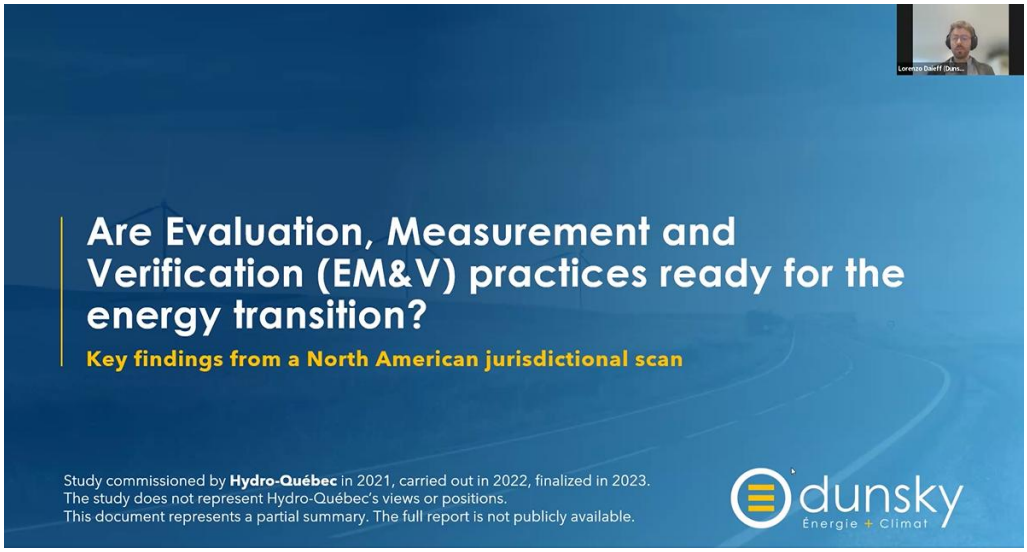
1. **"Are Evaluation, Measurement and Verification (EM&V) practices ready for the energy transition? Key findings from a North American jurisdictional scan"**

Lorenzo Daieff, Senior Consultant at Dunsky Energy + Climate Advisors

Lorenzo Daieff, a senior consultant at Dunsky Energy + Climate Advisors, presented findings from a study conducted for Hydro-Québec on how to evolve energy efficiency and demand response evaluation practices in light of the energy transition. Drawing on interviews with stakeholders across eight North American jurisdictions, Lorenzo categorized regions into three types based on data from the time at which the study was conducted (2022): holistic (e.g., British Columbia, Oregon), demanding (e.g., Quebec, New York), and traditionalist (e.g., Ontario, New Brunswick). He highlighted a growing tension in demanding jurisdictions between the need for rigorous, regulator-mandated evaluations and the urgency of scaling up programs to meet ambitious climate goals. Lorenzo proposed a shift from conventional audit-style evaluation to a more flexible, learning-oriented model that incorporates new metrics such as greenhouse gas reductions, equity outcomes, and real-time monitoring technologies (M&V 2.0). He concluded by advocating for a "transition-aligned evaluation" framework that balances rigor with adaptability and supports broader decarbonization objectives.

Main Takeaways:

- Traditional evaluation models may hinder rapid energy transition efforts; a shift toward learning-oriented, flexible evaluation is needed.
- Incorporating broader metrics like GHG savings and equity can make evaluations more relevant and impactful in today's policy landscape.



2. Demand Response in Action

Teevrat Garg, Associate Professor of Economics at the School of Global Policy and Strategy at the University of California, San Diego

Teevrat Garg, an associate professor at UC San Diego, shared insights from three randomized controlled trials (RCTs) conducted in Vietnam, India, and California, each aimed at improving demand response (DR) strategies. In Vietnam, his team tested contest-based incentives versus traditional contracts and found that contests achieved the same energy savings (7-9%) at half the cost. In India, pow-dr technologies deployed smart plugs to automate demand response in homes, achieving a 60% reduction in appliance-level energy use during peak times, without requiring active user behaviour. In California, they studied electric vehicle (EV) charging behaviour and discovered that environmental nudges were more effective than price discounts in shifting charging to solar hours. Across all three studies, Teevrat emphasized the importance of behavioural design, automation, and cost-effective incentives in achieving scalable, equitable, and impactful DR programs.

Main Takeaways:

1. Behavioral and automated interventions can significantly enhance the cost-effectiveness and scalability of demand response programs.
2. Middle-income households are the most responsive to DR interventions, and default-based automation can overcome behavioral inertia.

Presenters' Bio

Lorenzo Daieff

Senior Consultant at Dunsky Energy + Climate Advisors

Lorenzo Daieff is a Senior Consultant at Dunsky Energy + Climate Advisors. Dunsky is a Canadian firm advising clients across North America on how to navigate and accelerate the energy transition. It offers specialised analytical and strategic services in four sectors: efficient buildings, electrified mobility, clean grid planning, and industrial decarbonisation, serving utilities, governments, corporations, and not-for-profits. At Dunsky, Lorenzo co-leads the strategy cluster, focussing on helping clients design strategies, plans and roadmaps to navigate evolving contexts and determine and deliver on their priorities. Prior do joining Dunsky, he worked for Universalia Management Group, advising clients such as the Government of Canada, Siemens, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and others across more than 30 mandates related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Lorenzo holds a BA from Oxford University, an MA from McGill University, and an MBA from the Quantic School. He is fluent in English, French, and German.

Teevrat Garg

Associate Professor of Economics at the School of Global Policy and Strategy, University of California, San Diego.

Teevrat Garg is an Associate Professor of Economics at the School of Global Policy and Strategy at the University of California, San Diego. He specializes in research on decarbonization, energy transitions, air quality, and climate adaptation. His research has been published in leading economics journals including the *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, and the *Economic Journal*, as well as in general interest outlets such as *Nature*, *Science*, *Nature Communications*, and *Nature Sustainability*. His work combines rigorous empirical methods—such as randomized controlled trials and quasi-experimental designs—with close partnerships with governments and NGOs to generate evidence that informs real-world policy. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists and is an editor at the *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*, the flagship journal in the field of energy, environmental, and resource economics. His policy engagements include serving as a Technical Contributor to the Economics chapter of the 5th National Climate Assessment (NCA), co-leading the economic impacts assessment for the 5th Climate Assessment for the State of California (5CCA), and advising the Bangladesh Green Growth Initiative at the International Growth Center. His research has been featured in *Science*, *The New York Times*, and various policy forums. In addition to his academic work, he is a co-founder of Pow-dr Technologies, a company focused on scalable demand-side energy solutions.

Upcoming Events

EEAP Webinar # 20

Topic: Measuring What Matters: Non-Energy Benefits of Weatherization and Efficiency Programs

Date: August 5, 2025 (Tuesday) | **Time:** 9 AM California Time (PDT)

Duration: 60 Minutes

Registration: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/jSnluuImQHSGbRp26WCWPA

Presenters

1. **Michaela Marincic,** Senior Research & Data Analyst, Three3, Inc.

Discussion Topic: “Approaches to monetizing non-energy impacts for energy efficiency programs”

2. **Dr. Bruce Tonn,** Co-founder and President of Three3, Inc.

Discussion Topic: “Non-energy Impacts of Weatherization”

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