

## CLEAN ENERGY AND JUST TRANSITION CONFERENCE FOR MSMEs IN INDIA

27 JUNE 2022, MONDAY | INDIAN HABITAT CENTRE | SILVER OAK

MSMEs are the backbone of India's economy; they employ 110 million workers and generate 29% of India's GDP. For many MSMEs, addressing their high energy costs is key to their competitiveness and survival. Focusing on their transition to cheaper, clean energy can help improve their competitiveness and resilience to fluctuating fossil fuel prices as well as accelerate the achievement of India's climate goals.

At the same time, the low carbon transition will disrupt the way the Indian industry does business, opening opportunities for new sectors, indigenous technology development, additional financial flows, new jobs and higher growth. However, the jobs in the new clean energy sectors may be spread across different segments of the value chain compared to those in current conventional sectors, will be located in different geographies and require different skills. MSMEs are crucial to the clean energy transition in India and affected MSMEs need to be supported to ensure no one is left behind. To ensure this, MSMEs may need support to operationalize this clean energy transition, reskill their workers, secure new avenues of finance, and access formal safety nets, to be able to benefit from the transition.

World MSME Day is celebrated on June 27 every year to mark the contribution made by the small-scale business sector. On this occasion, WRI India with ISC is organizing a conference on "Clean Energy and Just Transition for SMEs in India" The conference aims to bring diverse perspectives on how to address the clean energy transition challenge keeping in perspective their existing difficulties as well as the risks that the transition may pose to small businesses and their workers.

### WRI India Panel Discussion 1:

#### Role of Technology & Finance in Clean Energy Transition in Indian MSMEs

- Supporting a policy framework for clean energy transition at national, regional and cluster level.
- Focused on scaling clean technology and leveraging financial models.

### WRI India Panel Discussion 2:

#### Enabling a Just Transition amongst Indian MSMEs

- Understanding the needs and challenges of MSMEs in the clean energy transition.
- Understanding the interventions needed to address these challenges to deliver a just transition for MSMEs

## **PANEL DISCUSSION 1: ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY & FINANCE IN CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION IN INDIAN MSMEs**

WRI India has been working with MSMEs to improve Energy Efficiency in the clusters and increase the adoption of renewable energy. Our objective is to enable MSMEs to reduce their energy consumption, operation, and maintenance costs, improve the efficiency of the cluster, and eventually decarbonise MSME clusters and reduce GHG emissions. We work with development institutions, governments, energy enterprises, investors, and civil society to build capacity and support sustainable, affordable, and reliable energy access solutions that alleviate poverty and promote development.

Between 20th June to 24th June, Institute for Sustainable Communities (ISC) and World Resources Institute (WRI) India in partnership with the Technology Information Forecasting Assessment Council, the Government of India (TIFAC) is launching an **Innovative Clean Energy Technology Platform** for MSMEs. The objective of this platform is to formalize and create an enabling ecosystem for promoting clean technology innovations in the SME sector. Instead of looking at national or state level challenges, the platform is focused on cluster level technology.

The platform is currently launched for five clusters, with the focus to reduce GHG emissions and improve the cluster level energy efficiency. The platform employs a competition-based approach to identify the most promising clean energy innovators across the country for the specific clusters. The focus sectors and states are:



The platform will showcase the selected clean energy technology provider, by giving them the opportunity to present and exhibit their product/services at regional technology roadshows. The platform will also support, promote, and “de-risk” the participating clean technology providers by connecting them with the potential investors, customers, and partners in above mentioned clusters. After-sales services and follow-up assessments of energy efficiency/savings for the implemented technology are mandatory.

The selected technology providers will also be showcasing their innovation/services during the National event on World MSME Day i.e., 27th June 2022. The conference intends to provide multiple angles on how to address this challenge and an innovative perspective on how to design the best societal pathways to reach climate neutrality by 2050.

India has an ambitious target of 500 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy capacity by 2030 as well as net-zero ambitions by 2070. Meeting these objectives will require all sectors to participate and contribute to the development of clean energy solutions and to create enabling ecosystem. The panel will discuss the role of MSMEs in the overall contribution to achieving net zero ambition and GHG emission reduction, enabling policy measures, technology needs and deployment, and influencing finance and investments.

## **PANEL DISCUSSION 2: ENABLING A JUST TRANSITION AMONGST INDIAN MSMEs**

The second panel of the day dives deeper into what the clean energy transition would mean for MSMEs as different sectors start to transition, and the impact that would have on their business and workers. Enabling a just clean energy transition implies ensuring that MSMEs in current conventional sectors and their workers are equipped with access to technology and finance, as well as the right skills and knowledge to ride the wave of the transition and adapt their businesses to the new demands of the emerging clean energy sectors. Doing this requires an understanding of their current challenges and needs, and the support they require to achieve this from skilling agencies, policymakers, OEMs, technology experts, researchers and philanthropists. This panel brings together stakeholders across the ecosystem to discuss opportunities, interventions and actions needed today to enable a resilient and clean MSME sector and enhance job opportunities for their workers.

27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022 | INDIAN HABITAT CENTRE | SILVER OAK

**AGENDA**

<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	Registration and Tea	
<b>Inaugural Session</b>		
<b>10:30 – 10:40</b>	Welcome Address	<b>OP Agarwal,</b> <i>CEO, WRI India</i>
<b>10:40 – 10:50</b>	Special Address	<b>Abhay Bakre</b> <i>DG, Bureau of Energy Efficiency</i>
<b>10:50 – 11:00</b>	Keynote Address	<b>Jarnail Singh</b> <i>Deputy Director, India Office</i> <i>MacArthur Foundation</i>
<b>11:00 – 11:10</b>	<b>Technology Exhibition Inaugural</b>	
<b>11:10 – 11:30</b>	<b>Tea and Networking</b>	
<b>11:30 – 13:30</b>	<p><b>National Technology Roadshow: Jury and Innovators Recognition</b></p> <p><b>Panel Discussion 1: Role of Technology and Finance in Clean Energy Transition in Indian MSMEs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rajiv Kumar,</b> <i>General Manager, Small Industries Development Bank of India</i></li> <li>• <b>Debajit Das,</b> <i>National Project Coordinator, United Nations Industrial Development Organization</i></li> <li>• <b>Ashvini Kumar,</b> <i>Technical Advisor, Shakti Foundation</i></li> </ul>	<p>Moderator:</p> <p><b>Vivek Adhia,</b> <i>Country Director, Institute of Sustainable Communities</i></p> <p><b>Deepak Krishnan,</b> <i>Associate Director, Energy Program, WRI India</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pradeep Srivastava,</b> <i>Executive Director, Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council</i></li> <li>• <b>Pamli Deka,</b> Regional Coordinator, South Asia, Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN)</li> </ul>	
<b>13:30 – 14:30</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
<b>14:30 – 16:15</b>	<p><b>Panel Discussion 2: Enabling a Just Transition amongst Indian MSMEs</b></p> <p>Introductory presentation</p> <p>Panel discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr. Saon Ray,</b> <i>Professor, ICRIER</i></li> <li>• <b>Uzair Shafiul,</b> <i>Industry Expert- Manufacturing, R&amp;D, Automotive Skills Development Council (ASDC)</i></li> <li>• <b>Michelle Armstrong,</b> <i>Head of Philanthropy at Ares Management Corporation and Executive Director of the Ares Charitable Foundation</i></li> <li>• <b>Chhavi Banswal,</b> <i>Lead, Future of Work and Platform Economy, Ola Mobility Institute (OMI)</i></li> <li>• <b>Ravi Nandan Sinha,</b> <i>Director of Development</i></li> </ul>	<p>Moderator:</p> <p><b>Ashwini Hingne,</b> <i>Senior Manager, Climate Program, WRI India</i></p>



	<p><i>at MSME Business Forum India</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Hariharan Ramamoorthy, All India Vice President, Laghu Udyog Bharati</b></li></ul>	
<b>16:15 – 16:30</b>	<b>Tea and closing</b>	