

<b>Concept Paper</b>	
<b>Video Conference to Disseminating Study on "Assessment of Industry Readiness for Manufacturing of Battery Electric Vehicles in SAARC Countries"</b>	
<b>PRG-179/2021/POSIT</b>	<b>SEC</b>

### **Background:**

Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV) demand is rising globally. Buyers are mostly attracted to these vehicles based on several factors such as savings on fuel cost, low maintenance and robust performance. In addition, BEVs have a significant positive impact on energy and environment. BEVs can assist in improving efficiency in electricity systems through storage and demand-response services. The use of BEVs can reduce local air pollution and country's share in global carbon emissions. It also helps in lower spending on fossil fuels which are, in case of most SAARC Member States, imported from abroad at the expense of precious foreign reserves. In this context SEC under its thematic area of "Programme on Successfully Implement Technology Transfer (POSIT)" has conducted a study on "*Assessment of Industry Readiness for Manufacturing of Battery Electric Vehicles*".

### **Introduction:**

To disseminate the findings of the study, to get feedback from member states for value addition, and to build awareness among Member States, SEC under its thematic area of "Programme on Successfully Implement Technology Transfer (POSIT)" initially proposed a Two-day workshop to disseminate the Study Report "*Assessment of Industry Readiness for Manufacturing of Battery Electric Vehicles*". However, amidst the ongoing COVID-19 situation in the Member States and around the globe, a Video Conference will be conducted, instead of a workshop, to disseminate the study report.

The study authors and the peer reviewer will share their valuable experiences with the audiences and inform them about findings of the study.

### **Objectives:**

Following are the objectives of this Video Conference:

1. Dissemination of the Study and its findings/ recommendations
2. Value addition and further improvement of the Study based on feedback and comments of the audiences
3. Assessment of technology options for cost effective production of Battery Electric Vehicles
4. Create awareness among the stakeholders including decision makers, regulators, project developers, private sectors, etc. on the technology options and the cost involved
5. Provide recommendations to policy makers, regulators, private sector, and auto industry on how to utilize indigenous resources for manufacturing BEVs
6. Recommend improvements to strengthen the competitiveness of local auto industry in respect to manufacturing of BEVs.

## **Major Aspects /Topics to be covered during the Workshop:**

The Video Conference will cover, but is not limited to the following aspects of Assessment of Industry Readiness for Manufacturing of Battery Electric Vehicles:

1. Framework for assessing the readiness of auto industry in respect to BEV manufacturing
2. Market study of auto industry through interviews/surveys of auto manufacturers/ assemblers and the manufacturers/assemblers of important BEV components such as Battery, Motor, Inverter, Software etc.
3. Readiness status of the auto industry as per the study framework
4. Identification of the competitive advantages of indigenous auto industry to excel in BEV manufacturing domain
5. Recommendations for structural, fiscal and policy improvements to assist indigenous auto industry to develop strengths in BEV value chain in future

## **Relevance, Coherence and Sustainability:**

The proposed Video Conference is relevant to the primary objectives of SEC to promote activities towards efficient energy and transport systems in the region. It is also coherent to the past efforts of SEC to find possibilities of BEVs based on the indigenous resources of the member states. Moreover, the study is in line with SEC's sustainability objectives because SEC aims to conduct more activities with regards to BEVs. Adoption of these technologies shall also fulfill energy need of the region.

## **Potential Professional Resource:**

Team of experts from Lahore University of Management Sciences Pakistan and Indian Institute of Management Bangalore India, who conducted the study will be invited for the dissemination purpose. The study reviewer will also be invited as a resource person. Beside the study teams and peer reviewer, experts on BEVs from within and outside the SAARC region will also be invited to share their research and experiences.

## **Venue and Date of the Video Conference:**

The Video Conference shall be broadcasted from office of SAARC Energy Centre on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.