

<b>Concept Paper</b>		
<b>Webinar on “Energy Audit of Residential and Commercial Buildings”</b>		
<b>Webinar</b>	<b>PRG-220/2021/PROMO</b>	<b>SEC</b>

**Background:**

Hydrocarbon reserves in South Asia are limited; all SAARC Member States are net importers of petroleum products. Ever growing electricity need in the SAARC Member States is leading to increased oil dependence as well as resulting in the environmental issues. Energy Conservation and Efficiency is an important measure to relax the dependence on the petroleum products and thereby, mitigate the environmental impacts. Despite the great potential for energy conservation and efficiency improvement, some of the Member States are lacking behind.

Buildings are one of the largest energy-consumers that account for about one-third of global energy use with relevant share of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions. Since buildings infrastructure has a long life; therefore, energy performance of the built environment will have a long-term impact on energy consumption. Nearly two thirds of the energy consumed in buildings goes for space conditioning; while the remaining one third mostly in the form of electricity is used for appliances and lighting. Energy savings in buildings can make a prominent reduction in the energy import of SAARC nations.

**Introduction:**

Energy Audit is the key to a systematic approach for decision-making in the areas of energy efficiency and conservation. It evaluates the efficiency of buildings and housed process systems that use energy. The energy audit starts at the utility meters and identifies all energy sources coming into a building. It identifies energy streams for each fuel, quantifies those energy streams into discrete functions, evaluates the efficiency of each of those functions, and identifies energy and cost savings opportunities.

In order to highlight the importance and promotion of energy audits and role of Energy Service Companies for carrying out these audits in SAARC region; SEC under its thematic area “Programme to Minimize Oil Imports through Improvements in Energy Efficiency and Fuel Substitution” (PROMO), is organizing a webinar on “Energy Audit of Residential and Commercial Buildings”.

**Objectives:**

The objective of the webinar is to discuss energy audit techniques in building sector, its usefulness, role of Energy Service Companies and reasons of its not being so popular in SAARC region.

**Major Aspects /Topics to be covered during the Webinar:**

The following major areas/ topics may be covered in this Webinar:

1. Energy audit in residential and commercial buildings
2. Barriers in effective implementation of energy audit in SAARC nations
3. Latest trends and technologies used in building energy audits of buildings

**Venue of the Webinar:**

The Webinar shall be broadcasted from the office of SAARC Energy Centre (SEC), Islamabad.