

Concept Paper		
Webinar to Disseminate Study on “Mobilizing International & Regional Finances/ Funding for Implementation of RE Projects in SAARC Member States”		
Webinar	PRG-188/2020/PROMO	SEC

Background:

With the increasing energy needs, depletion of fossil fuels, and rising prices of conventional energy supplies, Renewable Energy (RE) projects are being rapidly developed around the world to meet the energy requirements. The adverse effects of Climate Change have also necessitated the increased use of clean and environment friendly RE technologies. SAARC Member States have been quite ambitious to develop and promote RE resources to fulfill their energy needs. However, the growth of renewable energies in most of the Member States has remained slow due to various factors limited finances and lack of investment in renewable energy projects.

Under the directive of SAARC Expert Group on Renewable Energy, SEC conducted a study in 2018 to highlight issues and suggest ways forward for mobilizing international and regional finances/ funding for implementation of RE projects in the region. The study explored ways to seek support for implementation of RE projects and measures for speedy mobilization of financing from private sector. In order to disseminate the findings of the study and to get feedback from Member States for value addition, SEC is organizing a dissemination webinar.

Introduction:

SEC, under its thematic area to “Minimize Oil Imports through Improvements in Energy Efficiency and Fuel Substitution” (PROMO), is organizing a Webinar to Disseminate the Study on “Mobilizing International & Regional Finances/ Funding for Implementation of RE Projects in SAARC Member States”.

The dissemination webinar will be divided into three segments. The first part will consist of the study dissemination by the authors and the peer reviewer. In the second part, the authors and/ or prominent energy Financial Experts/Economists from within and outside the SAARC region will share their valuable experience of the subject with the participants. The third section will be a knowledge sharing session. The suggestions of participants will eventually be made part of the study report for its final printing and dissemination.

Objectives:

The objectives of the dissemination webinar are to:

1. Disseminate of the Study and its findings/ recommendations with the participants from SAARC Member States
2. Seek views of the experts on the subject based on their experience to address the challenges related to financing of RE projects and

3. Improve the study report based on inputs from the participants

Major Aspects /Topics to be Covered in the Webinar

The following major areas/ topics shall be covered in this dissemination webinar:

1. Existing and future international and regional financial instruments; including evolution of innovative funding mechanisms, such as Green Bonds, INVIT etc.
2. Existing barriers in financing RE projects in the region
3. Suggestions for financial incentives & mechanisms to encourage private investment
4. Importance of cooperation among relevant entities of the SAARC Member States
5. Cross-Border programs, collaborations & cooperation for development of RE sector
6. Conclusion and Recommendations

Venue of the Webinar

The webinar will be broadcasted from the office of SEC, Islamabad, Pakistan on **11th February 2020 (1030-1430 Hrs Pakistan Standard time PKT)**.