



SAARC Energy Centre
Islamabad

Provisional Agenda

SAARC Webinar on

“Modern Clean Cooking Technologies for Rural Households”

Friday, 18th October 2024: 1000 – 1200 hrs Pakistan Standard time (PKT)

1000 – 1010	Introduction <i>Mr. Ihsanullah Marwat, Research Fellow (Energy Efficiency), SAARC Energy Centre</i>
1010 – 1015	Opening Remarks <i>Dr. Nawaz Ahmad (Director, SAARC Energy Centre)</i>
1015 – 1035	Overview of Clean Cooking for Rural Household – Global Perspective <i>Dr. Rihab Khalid, Research Associate at Modern Energy Cooking Services (MECS) Programme, Loughborough University, UK)</i>
1035– 1040	Q & A session
1040 – 1105	Modern Clean Cooking Technologies: Challenges and Opportunities <i>Mr. Vimal Kumar, Cofounder, FINOVISTA, India</i>
1105 – 1115	Q & A session
1115 – 1140	Empowering Rural Communities: Empowering Rural Communities: Energy Access, Gender and Modern Clean Cooking Solutions <i>Ms. Lachana Shresthacharya, Gender and Energy Expert (Consultant), ADB</i>
1140 – 1150	Q & A session
1150 – 1155	Conclusions and Recommendations
1155	Closing of Webinar

1. All times mentioned in agenda are according to Pakistan Standard Time (PKT). The participants from other Member States may attend Webinar by following their own national time. The time conversion for all Member States is given below for reference:

Country	Afghanistan	Bangladesh	Bhutan	India	Maldives	Nepal	Sri Lanka
Local time	(PKT-00:30)	(PKT+01:00)	(PKT+01:00)	(PKT+00:30)	PKT	(PKT+00:45)	(PKT+00:30)

2. The participants can ask questions to presenters by typing questions or clicking to the raised hand option into the Attendees pane of the main window of MS Team software. The participants may send in questions at any time during the presentations; we will collect these and address them during the Q&A session at the end of each presentation.
3. All participants can also submit comments/views and/or observations on webinar to SAARC Energy Centre through email to Mr. Ihsanullah Marwat, Event Coordinator (SEC) (rfee@saarcenergy.org) by 31st October, 2024.

Dr. Rihab Khalid, Research Associate at Modern Energy Cooking Services (MECS) Programme, Loughborough University, UK

Dr Rihab Khalid is a Research Associate with the Modern Energy Cooking Services programme at the Geography and Environment department at Loughborough University, UK. Her work primarily focuses on socio-spatial justice in the clean cooking transition across urban and displacement settings in Africa and Asia. Employing feminist, intersectional, and decolonial approaches, her research aims to transform Southern energy narratives, promoting gender equity and inclusion for equitable and sustainable energy transitions. Dr. Khalid holds a PhD in Architecture from the University of Cambridge, where she also recently completed a three-year post-doctoral fellowship. She is also currently an Associate Editor at the Buildings and Cities journal, and a Visiting Fellow at the Global Sustainability Institute, Anglia Ruskin University, UK.



Mr. Vimal Kumar, In-country Programme Lead, MECS Programme, India | Co-founder, Finovista, New Delhi, India

Vimal Kumar is an accomplished leader in Program & Fund Management, and Capacity Building with around two decades of experience across sectors. As the In-country Programme Lead for the Modern Energy Cooking Services (MECS) Programme in India, funded by UK Government, Vimal has been instrumental in advancing clean cooking technologies, working closely with stakeholders to drive policy, finance, and market innovation. He is cofounder of FINOVISTA, a consultancy that collaborates with global developmental agencies, government bodies, and businesses in areas mainly Clean Cooking, Energy, and Environment. He holds an MBA in Finance, a Mathematics Honours degree, and is a Certified Associate of the Indian Institute of Bankers (CAIIB).



Ms. Lachana Shresthacharya, Gender and Energy Expert/ Consultant, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Ms. Lachana Shresthacharya is an energy professional with more than 12 years of experience in renewable, on-grid and off-grid sector. She is with ADB since 2018 as a TA coordinator/gender and energy expert -consultant supporting energy sector with her expertise in project design, processing, implementation, administration, and facilitation. She has master's degree in environmental and energy management from University of Twente and bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. She has also served as faculty member at engineering colleges and universities.

