

Energy Transition for Resilient and Low Carbon Economy Summit 2025

(Event Organized for Celebration of International Clean Energy Day)

Brief Program Concept Note and Program Schedule:

Background:

The UN-General Assembly (resolution A/77/327) has declared 26 January “The International Day of Clean Energy” as a call to raise awareness and mobilize action for a just and inclusive transition to clean energy for the benefit of people and the planet. This day serves as a platform to raise awareness about clean energy's critical role in building a resilient and sustainable future. It is also an opportunity to showcase innovations, share best practices, and engage with stakeholders across various sectors to foster collaboration and investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and climate finance.

Alternative Energy Promotion Center (AEPC) is a government agency working on renewable energy, energy efficiency and climate financing, under the purview of the Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation (MoEWRI), Government of Nepal. For over 28 years, AEPC has been a pioneer in promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency in Nepal. Through successful partnerships with national and international partners and stakeholders, AEPC has played a crucial role in advancing clean energy solutions that contribute to Nepal's sustainable development. With this backdrop, the Alternative Energy Development Board (AEDB) has decided to celebrate International Clean Energy Day. On this auspicious occasion, AEPC aims to celebrate its achievements, share knowledge, and enhance collaboration to scale up investments in the sector.

This one-day summit will serve as a platform for sharing experiences, discussing investment opportunities, and developing strategies for accelerating the clean energy transition in Nepal. The event will be an opportunity to engage with key national and international stakeholders, including government representatives, researchers/academicians, practitioners, development partners, investors and professionals.

Objectives:

- **Identify/explore sectoral needs, opportunities and challenges:** Explore energy transition needs in various sectors such as energy, transport, agriculture, household, etc.
- **Discuss Energy Transition Investment Requirements:** Discuss and share various domestic and international financing options for energy transition and net zero.
- **Share Priorities and Foster Partnerships:** Highlight successful initiatives in Nepal's energy transition and climate sectors shedding light on Development Cooperation's current and future investment portfolio, identify priorities and foster partnerships.
- **Showcase Best Practices and Explore Investment Opportunities:** Showcase best practices and success stories, and explore opportunities for investment in Nepal's energy transition and climate sector through discussions on financing mechanisms, climate finance, and investment frameworks.
- **Share Knowledge:** Inculcate sharing of knowledge and experience among partners and stakeholders with overlapping objectives, and create comprehensive knowledge products that capture the key insights and lessons learned.

Expected Outcomes:

- Identified sectoral needs for energy transition.
- Identified investment requirements for energy transition and identified various instruments for climate financing.
- Increased visibility of Nepal's clean energy sector and its investment potential.
- Strengthened partnerships between development cooperation, investors, and government entities.
- A knowledge product capturing key insights and actionable recommendations to drive the energy transition agenda in Nepal.
- Concrete strategies for increasing clean energy and climate sector investments and enhancing governance and technical capacity for such projects.

By celebrating International Clean Energy Day, AEPC aims to accelerate Nepal's energy transition through enhanced collaboration, investment and innovation. This event will serve as a vital platform for sharing experiences, attracting investments, and developing the necessary knowledge and strategies to ensure a sustainable and clean energy future for Nepal.

Tentative Program Schedule:

Date: Tuesday, 28th January 2025 (15th Magh 2081)

Venue: The Soaltee Hotel, Kathmandu

TIME	PROGRAM
8:30 to 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 10:30 (Opening Session)	Opening Session
	<u>CALL ON DIAS</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session Chair: Mr. Nawa Raj Dhakal, Executive Director, Alternative Energy Promotion Center (AEPC) • Chief Guest: Mr. Dipak Khadka, Hon. Minister, Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation (MoEWRI) • Special Guest: Mr. Purna Bahadur Tamang, Hon. State Minister, Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation (MoEWRI) • Special Guest: Prof. Dr. R.P. Bichha, Hon'ble Member, National Planning Commission (NPC)
	<u>Guests:</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Suresh Acharya, Secretary (Energy), Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation (MoEWRI) • Ms. Sarita Dawadi, Secretary (Water Resources), Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation (MoEWRI) • Dr. Ram Prasad Dhital, Chairperson, Electricity Regulatory Commission (ERC) • Ms. Pippa Bird, Development Director & Deputy Ambassador for Nepal from UK, British Embassy (Representative of DPs in Nepal) • Dr. Pema Gyamtsho, Director General, International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) • Ms. Gauri Singh, Deputy Director General, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) • Mr. Kushal Gurung, Chairperson, Renewable Energy Confederation of Nepal (RECON) (Representative - Private Sector)
	Welcome and Objective of Program - Dr. Narayan Prasad Adhikari ; Deputy Executive Director, AEPC
	Inauguration of the Program by Chief Guest, Hon. Minister, Mr. Dipak Khadka , MoEWRI
	Keynote presentation on Energy Transition for Resilient and Low Carbon Economy: Global Experiences, Opportunities and Challenges for Nepal; by Prof. Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal , Professor, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand
	Remarks by Dr. Pema Gyamtsho , Director General, ICIMOD
	Remarks by Ms. Gauri Singh , Deputy Director General, IRENA, Abudhabi, UAE

	Remarks by Ms. Pippa Bird , Development Director & Deputy Ambassador for Nepal from UK, British Embassy
	Remarks by Mr. Suresh Acharya , Secretary, MoEWRI
	Remarks by Prof. Dr. R.P. Bichha , NPC Member
	Remarks by Mr. Purna Bahadur Tamang , Hon. State Minister, MoEWRI
	Chief Guest Remarks: Mr. Dipak Khadka , Hon. Minister, MoEWRI
	Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks by Session Chair: Mr. Nawa Raj Dhakal , ED, AEPC
	Group Photo

10:30 – 11:00	Tea Coffee and observation of a) Showcased Projects at the project demonstration hall, and b) Solar System Installed at the Soaltee Hotel under Sustainable Energy Challenge Fund (SECF) Modality
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Parallel Sessions: **Session 1: P1.1 Energy Transition: Sectoral Needs, Opportunities and Challenges**
Session 2: P1.2 Energy Transition: Towards Achieving Net Zero and Resilient Economy

Session 1 (P1.1) 11:00 – 12:30 (Hall 1)	Theme: Energy Transition: Sectoral Needs, Opportunities and Challenges	<u>Session Chair</u> Mr. Sandip Kumar Dev , Joint Secretary, MoEWRI <u>Moderator</u> Ms. Pooja Sharma , Country Director, Practical Action Nepal
	Keynote: What does Energy Transition mean in the Nepalese Context? Demand and Supply Side Perspectives; by Dr. Narayan Prasad Chaulagain , Senior Energy Specialist, GIZ	
	PANELISTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Rajan Dhakal, Deputy Managing Director, Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) • Mr. Khagendra Basnet, Director, Department of Industry, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies (MoICS) • Ms. Sabnam Shivakoti Aryal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD) • Dr. Narayan Prasad Adhikari, Deputy Executive Director, AEPC • Mr. Hem Raj Dhakal, Vice President, Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) • Mr. Arindam Mukherjee, Energy Efficiency Specialist, USAID Urja Nepal 	
Session 2 (P1.2) 11:00-12:30 (Hall 2)	Theme: Energy Transition: Towards Achieving Net Zero and Resilient Economy	<u>Session Chair</u> Dr. Maheshwar Dhakal , Joint Secretary, CCMD Chief, Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE)

		<u>Moderator</u> Mr. Manjeet Dhakal , Head of LDC Support Team & Director, Climate Analytics South Asia
	Keynote: Global and Regional Initiatives for Net Zero Energy Transition; by Dr. Kavita Rai , <i>International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)</i>	
	PANELISTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jeebachh Mandal, Joint Secretary, MoEWRI • Mr. Guru Prasad Paudel, Executive Director, Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) • Ms. Arati Khadgi, Head of Climate and Energy Platform, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Nepal • Dr. Shree Raj Shakya, Director, Center for Energy Studies (CES), Institute of Engineering (IoE), Tribhuvan University • Mr. Vijaya Singh, Assistant Resident Representative, Resilience, DRR and Climate Change, UNDP • Mr. Thakur Thapa, Country Director, Renewable World 	

12:30-13:30	Networking Lunch
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Parallel Sessions: **Session 3: P2.1 Investment& Climate Finance for Energy Transition: Need for Domestic and International Financing**
Session 4: P2.2 Regulatory Framework, Governance, and Capacity Development for Energy Transition

Session 3 (P2.1) 13:30-15:00	Theme: Investment & Climate Finance for Energy Transition: Need for Domestic and International Financing	<u>Session Chair</u> Mr. Dhani Ram Sharma , Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance (MoF) <u>Moderator</u> Mr. Suman Basnet , Team Leader, Nepal Renewable Energy Programme (NREP)
	Keynote: Recent Trends of Development and Climate Financing for Energy Transition: Global and Regional Experiences; by Mr. Raju Pandit Chhetri , <i>Executive Director, PRC</i>	
	SPEAKERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Om Prakash Bhattarai, Under Secretary, MoF • Ms. Barsha Pandey, Energy Specialist, The World Bank • Ms. Grishma Shah, Project Officer (Energy), ADB • Mr. Sunil KC, Immediate Past President of Nepal Bankers Association and CEO, NMB Bank Ltd. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dipesh Joshi, Program Lead, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI -Nepal Country Office) • Mr. Guna Raj Dhakal, Founding President of RECON • Dr. Prem Kumar Pokhrel, Climate and Carbon Expert 	
Session 4 (P2.2) 13:30-15:00	Theme: Regulatory Framework, Governance, and Capacity Development for Energy Transition	<u>Session Chair</u> <i>Prof. Dr. Govind Raj Pokharel</i> , <i>Former Vice Chairperson, NPC & Former ED, AEPC</i> <u>Moderator</u> <i>Mr. Vishwa Bhusan Amatya</i> , <i>Senior Renewable Energy Expert</i>
	Keynote: Regulatory Framework, Policy Alignments and Governance Issues in Energy Transition; by <i>Dr. Ram Prasad Dhital, Chairperson, ERC</i>	
	SPEAKERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sandip Shah, President, Nepal Solar Power Producers Association • Mr. Rajendra Prasad Pyakurel, Executive Director, National Association of Rural Municipalities in Nepal (NARMIN) • Mr. Kalanidhi Devkota, Executive Director, Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN) • Ms. Sama Shrestha, Programme Specialist (WPS, Humanitarian, DRR and Climate Change), UN Women • Ms. Manohara Khadka, Country Representative - Nepal, International Water Management Institute (IWMI) • Dr. Biraj Singh Thapa, Associate Professor, Kathmandu University 	

15:00-15:30	Tea Break
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Session 5: Plenary Session & Closing Ceremony

Session 5	Plenary Session: Panel Discussion on “What Next for Energy Transition for Resilient and Low Carbon Economy?”	<u>Moderator</u> <i>Ms. Sama Thapa, Journalist</i>
15:30-17:00	Context Setting Presentation: by <i>Ms. Resha Piya</i> , Infrastructure Advisor, British Embassy, Kathmandu	
	<u>PANELISTS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Kulman Ghising, Managing Director, Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) • Dr. Chandika Prasad Bhatta, Managing Director, Nepal Oil Corporation (NOC) • Mr. Nawa Raj Dhakal, Executive Director, Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPC) • Mr. Niraj Subedi, Head of Office, KFW • Mr. Ganesh Karki, President, Independent Power Producers' Association, Nepal (IPPAN) • Mr. Kushal Gurung, Renewable Energy Confederation of Nepal (RECON) 	
Session 6	Concluding Session	

17:00-17:30	Session Chair: Mr. Madhu Prasad Bhetuwal , Secretary, Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS)	
	GUESTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Sushil Chandra Acharya, Joint Secretary, MoEWRI • Mr. Nabin Raj Singh, Director General, Department of Electricity Development (DoED) • Ms. Pooja Sharma, Country Director, Practical Action Nepal • Mr. Manjeet Dhakal, Head of LDC Support Team & Director, Climate Analytics South Asia • Mr. Suman Basnet, Team Leader, Nepal Renewable Energy Programme (NREP) • Mr. Vishwa Bhusan Amatya, Senior Renewable Energy Expert 	
	Summary and Recap of Overall Event	Prof. Dr. Ramesh Kumar Maskey & Dr. Mukesh Ghimire
	Remarks	Mr. Nabin Raj Singh , DG, DoED Mr. Sushil Chandra Acharya , JS, MoEWRI
	Vote of Thanks from AEPC	Mr. Rudra Prasad Khanal , Director, AEPC
	Remarks and Closing of the event by Session Chair	Mr. Madhu Prasad Bhetuwal , Secretary, WECS

17:30-19:30	Networking Dinner
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Parallel Side Events

Parallel Side Event (Whole Day)	SIDE EVENT (Parallel Live Demo Event; at Lobby and Demonstration Hall) <i>Project Showcasing of few existing projects of Sustainable Energy Challenge Fund (SECF) and other Projects and Investment Match Making (B2B) Event</i> <i>Selection of showcasing projects and Digital Display & Poser Presentation</i>	Impactful projects under SECF and other RE, EE and Climate Financing Projects
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