



“NEW FRONTIERS: A Programme on Renewable Energy”

Webinar on

“Role of clean-tech start-ups/climate entrepreneur in providing clean and affordable energy”

Date: Thursday, 17th February 2022 Time: 17:45–19:15 hrs, Virtual

Concept Note

In line with the Hon’ble Prime Minister’s announcement in the COP-26 at Glasgow, the Government is committed to achieving 500 GW of installed power generation capacity from non-fossil fuel sources by the year 2030. The Government has taken many initiatives to promote renewable energy in the country and in the last seven years, India has made increasingly focused efforts to implement the energy transition through citizen-centric energy policies and programmes.

The RE sector has ample opportunities for start-ups and entrepreneurs in the country. For example, in solar energy sector the opportunities include EPC work, O&M work, cleaning of solar panels, installation of solar rooftops, coordination for testing of solar equipment, service provider off-grid solar rooftop, installation of solar water pumps, RESCO model installations, solar BIPVs, skill development, consultancy work and new innovative product development. Similar opportunities are also available in wind, biomass, small hydro and waste to energy sectors. With innovative and creative solutions, the start-ups can play a significant role in fulfilling the goals of clean and affordable energy.

Innovative companies are developing solutions to meet the urgent need for clean energy throughout India. There are three areas that entrepreneurs are mainly addressing: access to electricity, clean cooking, and the transition to renewables. India is vulnerable to climate change, and significant action is needed to mitigate the effects of pollution. The

opportunity to scale up clean energy technologies, considering the high stakes and potential for significant growth solutions is immense.

This webinar will include the following discussion points which would define the role of start-ups and their upcoming solutions:

i. Invention-based enterprises provide physical solutions with transformative impact and are the dominant business in the clean energy sector. These companies conduct research and development (R&D) and manufacture at least one physical component in which the innovation is unique enough to be patentable technologies.

ii. Service companies are those whose primary innovation is not a physical product, including business process innovators and software firms. Service companies act as intermediaries to improve services or grid-level solutions and offer new solutions that facilitate access to products for end-users.

iii. Support Ecosystem includes support organizations like MNRE, centres of excellence in leading R&D organizations, ATAL Innovation Mission and Department of Science & Technology etc. which provides certain benefits to innovative clean energy companies.

The government is giving special impetus to the growth of start-ups and entrepreneurship in the country. Several benefits are being provided to recognise start-ups under the Start-up India initiative like tax exemption, easy winding of companies, start-up patent application & IPR protection, self-certification to comply under environmental & labour laws, easier public procurement norms, SIDBI funds, applications for tenders, R&D facilities, tax saving for investors etc.

This webinar will focus to provide an overview of the resources and support structure available in the country at various levels for the start-ups operating in renewable energy sector. This webinar is intended to come up with actionable guidance for entrepreneurs, investors, support organizations, donors, policymakers, and universities.

This special event will be chaired by Dr. Juzer Vasi, Professor Emeritus, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay. The participants will be from industry, start-up companies, academia, government officials and other stakeholders of renewable energy sector.
