

Sub-National Forum: U.S.-India Clean Energy and Climate Action and Collaboration

*Co-Hosted by the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) and
Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) with Support from SED Fund*

Washington, DC

Wednesday, July 20, 2022, 8:45 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.

To Be Followed by a Networking Reception

In the United States as in India, state governments play a critical role in addressing climate change, whether by advancing clean energy technologies, demonstrating the viability of innovative policy and regulatory approaches, or engaging stakeholders to manage the impacts of the transition. This meeting will bring together policy leaders in both countries to explore opportunities for continued subnational and international cooperation and best practice exchange in financing, technology, and policy innovation.

CSIS is a fully vaccinated facility; please bring proof of vaccination upon arrival or email it to NASEO (sfazeli@naseo.org).

Part I - Policy Leaders Mobilizing for Climate Impact

Opening Remarks and Welcome

8:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

These opening remarks will welcome participants and set the stage for the event.

Speaker:

Katherine Hadda, Senior Visiting Fellow, Wadhvani Chair, CSIS

Keynote: U.S. Department of Energy Leadership in America and Abroad

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

In this opening keynote, Deputy Secretary of Energy David Turk will highlight key priorities and strategies for advancing America's security, economic competitiveness, and energy systems through collaboration, partnership, and capacity-building from the subnational to the international levels.

Speaker:

David Turk, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

Introduced by David Terry, Executive Director, NASEO

Harnessing State-Federal Decision Making and Coordination in the United States and India

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

The long-standing U.S.-India clean energy partnership represents a commitment from top levels of government to drastically scale clean energy technologies in pursuit of shared climate goals. Achieving impact through this bilateral engagement will require not only mobilization within the U.S. federal government and Indian central

government, but support and implementation at the state and local levels. This opening panel session will explore how national and state policymaking and innovation can be effectively harnessed for impactful and meaningful climate action.

Panel Speakers:

Dinesh Jagdale, Joint Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India

Varun Sivaram, Managing Director and Senior Advisor, Clean Energy and Innovation, U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry

David Terry, Executive Director, NASEO

Jeevan Kumar Jethani, Executive Director, AREAS

Moderated by Jane Nakano, Senior Fellow, Energy Security and Climate Change Program, CSIS

State Clean Energy Leadership: Informing Policy Innovation through best practices and Stakeholder Engagement

10:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

U.S. and Indian states are in the crucial position of navigating climate goals in the context of their unique economic, market, and political landscapes. In this session, state policy leaders from both countries will highlight their successes, lessons learned, and future plans for advancing clean energy and climate solutions in their states, economies, and communities.

Speakers:

Sanjay Dubey, Principal Secretary Energy, Government of Madhya Pradesh (*via video*)

Niraj Verma, Principal Secretary Power, Government of Assam (*via video*)

Gagan Bihari Swain, Director, GRIDCO, Government of Odisha

Joanna Troy, Director of Energy, Policy and Planning, Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources

Robert Jackson, Director, Energy Office, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

Ari Gerstman, Associate Director, District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment

Moderated by Sandy Fazeli, Senior Managing Director, NASEO

Keynote: Catalyzing Connections through Philanthropic Investment

11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

This keynote presentation will highlight the significant projects supported by the SED Fund, whose mission is to catalyze resources and leadership for an equitable energy transition and climate action, in cultivating U.S.-India subnational clean energy collaboration and partnerships.

Speaker:

Vikas Mehta, Executive Director, SED Fund

Introduced by Kelley Smith Burk, Director, Office of Energy, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Chair, NASEO Board of Directors

Part II - Achieving a Reliable, Affordable, Resilient, and Integrated Electric Grid

(Invitation-Only Roundtable Discussions –RSVP to Sandy Fazeli & Afeena Ashfaque sfazeli@naseo.org & aashfaque@csis.org)

Networking Lunch

11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Attendee Welcome, Introductions, and Priorities

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

To encourage interactive discussion, meeting attendees are encouraged to be prepared to share their name, organization, and top priority in U.S.-India clean energy engagement.

U.S. Government Clean Energy and Subnational Collaboration Overview

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

U.S. Government agencies are advancing clean energy and climate goals at the international, federal, and subnational levels. This session will highlight key federal partners, plans, and upcoming events that U.S. and Indian states should know about.

Speakers:

Varun Sivaram, Managing Director and Senior Advisor, Clean Energy and Innovation, U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry

Elena Thomas-Kerr, Senior Advisor, Office of Asian Affairs, Office of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Energy

Robert Dixon, Senior Advisor, Office of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Energy

Moderated by Sandy Fazeli, Senior Managing Director, NASEO

Indian State Nodal Agency Success Stories in Distributed Energy Resources

2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

This session will feature presentations from India's State Nodal Agencies leading developments, projects, and plans in distributed energy resources.

Speakers:

Gautam Majumdar, Director-in-Charge, West Bengal Renewable Energy Development Agency

Siddu Ramana Reddy, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, New and Renewable Energy Development Corporation of Andhra Pradesh

Prafulla Tayde, General Manager, Maharashtra Energy Development Agency (invited)

Shyam Dhar Dubey, Senior Project Officer-I, Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency

Hemanga Deka, Scientific Officer, Assam Energy Development Agency

Moderated by Afeena Ashfaque, Associate Director, Wadhvani Chair, CSIS

Break

3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

U.S. State Innovations in Distributed Energy Planning, Resilience, and Grid Integration

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

This session will feature U.S. states leading innovative policies, programs and partnerships in clean electricity and distributed energy resources.

Speakers:

John Williams, Vice President, Policy and Regulatory Affairs, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority; Vice-Chair, NASEO Board of Directors

Kirsten Rigney, Legal Director, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environment

Moderated by Kirsten Verclas, Managing Director, NASEO

Closing Remarks and Takeaways

5:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Speakers

Katherine Hadda, Senior Visiting Fellow, Wadhvani Chair, CSIS

Sandy Fazeli, Senior Managing Director, NASEO

Networking Reception

5.30 p.m.-7.30 p.m.

CSIS Headquarters, Second Floor
