

*SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL INITIATIVE FOR ENERGY  
INTEGRATION (SARI/EI)*

*REGIONAL CONFERENCE*

*ON*

*“ENHANCING ENERGY*

*COOPERATION &*

*INTEGRATION IN SOUTH*

*ASIA”*

**Date: 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018**



## Purpose of the conference:

Access to reliable, affordable, and cleaner energy is a high priority to facilitate economic development and improved welfare of the population in South Asia Region. South Asian Countries have vast diversity of energy resources, which are still under development, particularly hydro power, and renewable energy. With rapidly rising demand across all the South Asian Countries (SAC) and limited supply, there are huge opportunities exists for the optimization of resources through interconnected power system for SAC. Presently around 2500 MW is being traded in South Asia Region and electricity trade is likely to be doubled by the end of year 2019-20. Increased energy/electricity cooperation among countries can bring economies of scale in investment, strengthen in electricity sector financing capability, enhance competition, and improve sector efficiency. Thus, there is a need for regional energy cooperation that offers an ideal platform for achieving sustainable growth through sharing of available natural energy resources in the South Asia Region and gradual positive progress is already taking place over the years.

IRADe is the implementing partner of USAID's flagship program, South Asian Regional Initiative for Energy Integration (SARI/EI) since 2012. The program aims to advance energy cooperation, regional energy integration and to promote/facilitate Cross Border Electricity Trade (CBET) in the eight South Asian countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and the Maldives). Under SARI/EI Program, IRADe has taken various initiatives/studies such as development of Regional Regulatory Guidelines, suggested changes/amendments in each country's laws/policies, economic benefits of power trade, harmonization of grid codes, operating procedures for integration of power system, model PPA and TSA, transmission pricing mechanism, regional investment framework, framework for open access and trading licenses, BIMSTEC energy outlook etc.

As the program has entered its final year and reaches its conclusions, we plan to hold SARI/EI Regional Conference on "Enhancing Energy Integration in South Asia" to discuss, deliberate and disseminate the key findings of SARI/EI Research studies to promote Cross Border Electricity Trade in the region and various activities carried out by SARI/EI/IRADe since 2012.

## Background:

IRADe has been working in the South Asia Region to promote Energy Cooperation & Cross Border Electricity Trade since - October'2012, more than 5 and half years under the SARI/EI Program of the USAID. During these – years, we worked with South Asian Country Governments, Power Utilities, Power planning & regulating authorities such as CEA, CERC, NEA, BPDB, Private institutions, Regional Institutions such as SAARC & BIMSTEC, Think Tanks etc. and many others. Over the years we brought out a number of technical reports listed separately. They were released earlier by Shri Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog in New Delhi, Ambassador Manjeev Puri in Nepal, Dr. Swarnim Wagle, Member Energy, Nepal Planning Commission, Mr. Nasrul Hamid, State Minister for Power, Energy and Mineral Resource, Bangladesh.

## Speakers/Delegates Profile:

- ❖ South Asia Country Governments
- ❖ Planning authorities, Policy Making Bodies, Regulators
- ❖ Financial institutions and Multilateral Development Banks (MDB)
- ❖ Power sector institutions and companies
- ❖ Trade & industry associations from South Asian Countries.
- ❖ Media Representatives
- ❖ Corporate Leaders of SAARC Member Countries
- ❖ Private sector, Investors, think tanks, economists

There will be around 70 speakers from renowned organization across South Asia region, participating in the conference.

### Agenda Outline:

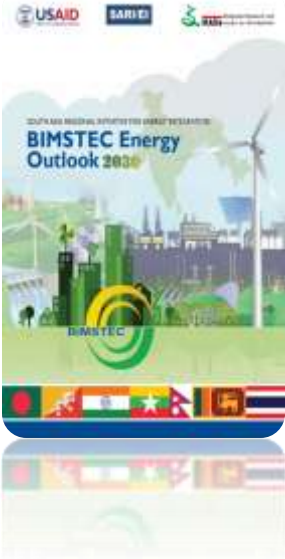
Agenda	
<b>Day-1</b>	
<b>30<sup>TH</sup> August, 2018</b>	
<b>0945 – 1100 Hrs</b>	<b>Session-I: Inaugural</b>
<b>1135 – 1300 Hrs</b>	<b>Session-II: Policies/, Regulations and Institutional Mechanisms for promoting Energy Cooperation &amp; Cross Border Electricity Trade in South Asia</b>
<b>1400-1515 Hrs</b>	<b>Session-III: Investments in Infrastructure for Cross Border Projects: Catalyzing Private Investments and Mitigating risks</b>
<b>1530-1645 Hrs</b>	<b>Session-IV: Coordinated interconnection transmission planning and need for a Technical Institutional Mechanism in South Asia for secure reliable Grid interconnection</b>
<b>1645-1800 Hrs</b>	<b>Session-V: Electricity Trade in BBIN region- Long term trading volume and uncertainties</b>
<b>Day-2</b>	
<b>31<sup>st</sup> August, 2018</b>	
<b>0930-1100 Hrs</b>	<b>Session VI : “South Asian Regional Power Market- Market Instruments and Regional Power Exchange”</b>
<b>1100-1215 Hrs</b>	<b>Session VII : “Linking South Asia with South-East Asia and Synergizing regional and Sub regional Initiatives for Energy Cooperation ”</b>
<b>1215-1330 Hrs</b>	<b>Session VIII : “Role of Think Tanks in enabling conducive environment and consensus building for CBET in South Asia”</b>
<b>1430-1545 Hrs</b>	<b>Session XI : “Enhancing energy cooperation in pan South Asia: Future Strategies &amp; Way forward”</b>
<b>1600-1700 Hrs</b>	<b>Session X : Valedictory Session</b>

### Glimpse from the past

Workshop on Regional Co-operation for Power Trade: Nepal-India Perspective held on 01st December, 2017, Radisson Hotel, Kathmandu, Nepal



Report release of “Regional Investment framework” in 6th SAARC business leaders conclave-2018 in partnership with SARI/EI/IRADe 16th-18th march, 2018 in Hyatt regency, Kathmandu, Nepal



*Release of SARI-EI Report on BIMSTEC Energy Outlook 2030 in the Conference on BIMSTEC at its 20: Towards a Bay of Bengal Community, 20th March 2018-BIMSTEC SECRETARIAT, Dhaka, Bangladesh*

### **About SARI/EI**

Over the past decade, USAID’s South Asia Regional Initiative/Energy (SARI/E) has been advocating energy cooperation in South Asia via regional energy integration and cross border electricity trade in eight South Asian countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and the Maldives). This fourth and the final phase, titled South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy Integration (SARI/EI), was launched in 2012 and is implemented in partnership with Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe) through a cooperative agreement with USAID. SARI/EI addresses policy, legal and regulatory issues related to cross border electricity trade in the region, promote transmission interconnections and works toward establishing a regional market exchange for electricity

### **About USAID**

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is an independent government agency that provides economic, development, and humanitarian assistance around the world in support of the foreign policy goals of the United States. USAID’s mission is to advance broad-based economic growth, democracy, and human progress in developing countries and emerging economies. To do so, it is partnering with governments and other actors, making innovative use of science, technology, and human capital to bring the most profound results to a greatest number of people.

### **About IRADe**

IRADe is a fully autonomous advanced research institute, which aims to conduct research and policy analysis and connect various stakeholders including government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), corporations, and academic and financial institutions. Its research covers many areas such as energy and power systems, urban development, climate change and environment, poverty alleviation and gender, food security and agriculture, as well as the policies that affect these areas.

