

**MINUTES OF THE 19TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (ECM) OF
SOUTH ASIA FORUM FOR INFRASTRUCTURE REGULATION (SAFIR)**

Date: 28th AUGUST 2020; Friday

Virtual Meeting conducted through MS Teams

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Md. Abdul Jalil, Chairperson, South Asia Forum for Infrastructure Regulation (SAFIR) & Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC). List of participants is enclosed at **Annexure-I**.

In his opening remarks and welcome address, Mr. Md. Abdul Jalil, Chairperson, SAFIR and Chairperson of BERC welcomed all dignitaries to the meeting. He thanked Mr. Monowar Islam, Former Chairman of SAFIR/ Former Chairman of BERC, Bangladesh for his effective leadership of SAFIR. He added that as per the original schedule, the ECM was supposed to be held in Nepal. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the meeting was being held virtually. Mr. Jalil also acknowledged support of SAFIR Working Group, South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy Integration (SARI/EI) and Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe) for their activities. He also appreciated the proposal of the US Department of State Bureau of Energy Resources (ENR) of USA for potential cooperation with SAFIR. As Chairman, SAFIR, Mr. Jalil expressed his gratitude and commitment to strengthen SAFIR and sought cooperation from all members for the same.

In his address, Shri. P. K. Pujari, Chairperson, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC)/ SAFIR Secretariat stated that this virtual meeting paves a new way for interaction. He also expressed his appreciation for the efforts of Mr. Monowar Islam as the Chairperson of SAFIR in enhancing the effectiveness of SAFIR. He also acknowledged the interest evinced by the multilateral agencies like the World Bank in extending technical assistance to SAFIR with the objective of strengthening greater cooperation and energy trade among the member countries of the region. He added that he looked forward to a fruitful and rich discussion in the Executive Committee meeting.

In his address, Mr. Kithsiri Liyanage, Chairperson, Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka (PUCSL) appreciated the efforts of SAFIR Secretariat in conducting this virtual meeting. He stated that it was his first Executive Committee meeting as Chairperson of PUCSL and he looked forward to eventful discussion. He seconded Shri Pujari's comments on the new initiatives including that of the Joint Working Group for promotion of South Asian regional power grid. He thanked Chairperson of SAFIR for hosting the meeting.

In his address, Mr. Dilli Bahadur Singh, Chairperson, Electricity Regulatory Commission of Nepal expressed his eagerness to explore to organize the future ECM in Nepal once the situation is normal. He however, expressed his pleasure to interact with other SAFIR Members through virtual meeting.

The Forum thereafter took each of the agenda items for consideration.

Agenda 1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 18th Executive Committee Meeting held on 5th December 2019 at Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Dy. Chief (RA), CERC/ SAFIR Secretariat explained the action taken on various points earmarked for SAFIR Secretariat viz. new memberships, payment of fees to International Confederation of Energy Regulators (ICER), cessation of membership due to non-payment of fees, proposal of ENR, USA for cooperation, regarding the membership of Electricity Regulatory Commission of Nepal (ERCN) in SAFIR. Chairperson of ERCN informed that the proposal for approval of the cabinet in this regard has already been sent to the Government of Nepal and it may be approved in days to come. She also updated the Executive Committee on the reference received from the World Bank, constitution of the Joint Working Group based on the proposal from the World Bank, finalization of the terms of reference by seeking the approval of Chairperson, SAFIR and minutes of the 1st meeting and sought for endorsement of the EC.

Thereafter the minutes of the 18th Executive Committee Meeting were confirmed and the EC also endorsed the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Joint Working Group.

Agenda 2: Accounts Related Matters

a) Budget for F.Y. 2020-2021

Dy Chief (RA), CERC/SAFIR Secretariat explained the proposed Budget for FY 2020-21 as a deficit budget wherein a moratorium of one year on the membership fees was proposed in order to utilize the surplus of Rs 1.46 crores accumulated in FCRA funds. After discussion, the budget for the financial year 2020-21 was considered and approved.

The ECM was also informed that Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) had proposed to conduct a study on the infrastructure sector, which is with respect to the study budgeted for FY 2020-21. As regards the Core Course, the SC was informed that SAFIR Secretariat had received a very good response from the participants of the SAFIR Core Course held in Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad. Since the course was coordinated by Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission (GERC), Chairperson GERC proposed that the Core Course for this year may also be held in IIM Ahmedabad. He also proposed that instead of virtual training, the said program may be conducted in physical mode in order to give a feel of the campus and academic environment of IIM Ahmadabad. Chief (RA), CERC suggested that the EC member countries may also explore taking up the Core Course as, in the past Core Courses were organised by Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Bhutan.

After discussion, the Budget for FY 2020-21 was approved. It was also decided that proposals may be solicited from IICA and GERC/IIM Ahmedabad and any interested institution in member countries of SAFIR for conducting the studies and Core Course (physical/virtual mode) and a decision on the same would be taken by circulation amongst the EC members. SAFIR Secretariat was directed to assist the EC in evaluating the proposals.

b) Annual Audited Accounts for F.Y. 2019-2020

Dy Chief (RA), CERC/ SAFIR Secretariat explained the salient features of the Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account for the financial year 2019-20. After discussion, the Annual Accounts of SAFIR for the financial year 2019-20 were considered and adopted.

c) Appointment of Auditor for the F.Ys. 2019-2020 and 2020-2021

The proposal for re-appointment of M/s R.K. Raman & Co., Chartered Accountant, New Delhi to conduct the audit of the Accounts of SAFIR for the F.Y. 2019-2020 was placed before the ECM. It was proposed that the appointment of the Auditor may be extended for a further term of 2 years i.e. 2019-20 & 2020-21. After discussion, the proposal was accepted.

d) Appointment of Tax Consultant for filing the Income Tax Return for the F.Ys. 2019-2020 and 2020-2021

The ECM was informed that M/s MM & Associates, Chartered Accountants (CA), New Delhi have filed the Income Tax Return (ITR) of SAFIR. Due to their pre-occupation, the CA Firm had requested for withdrawal of their services with respect to filing the ITR of SAFIR for the F.Y. 2019-2020. Therefore, it was proposed that a Sr. Tax Consultant may be appointed for filing the ITR of SAFIR for the F.Y. 2019-2020 and onwards, on retainership basis after duly calling for the quotes for taking up the assignment. After discussion, the proposal was accepted.

e) Appointment of Consultant for filing the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) Return for the F.Ys. 2019-2020 and 2020-2021

The EC was informed that for the F.Ys. 2016-2017 & 2018-2019, M/s MBR & Co. LLP, Chartered Accountants, New Delhi were appointed for certification & filing of the FCRA Return of SAFIR with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), India. Accordingly, the proposal was

placed before the EC for their re-appointment for certification & filing of the FCRA Return of SAFIR with MHA for the F.Y. 2019-2020 (being the 4th year of their appointment). After discussion, the proposal was accepted.

f) Appointment of Goods and Services Tax (GST) Consultant for filing the returns for the F.Y. 2020-2021

The EC was informed that M/s MBR & Company LLP, Chartered Accountants, New Delhi were appointed as consultants to handle various GST related matters and file the GST returns of SAFIR. Accordingly, they have duly filed the Goods and Services Tax Returns (GSTRs) for the F.Ys. 2017-2018 (i.e. w.e.f. January, 2018) to 2019-2020. Their services have been satisfactory. Accordingly, it was proposed that the same firm may be re-appointed for the F.Y. 2020-2021 (4th year) too. After discussion, the proposal was accepted.

g) FCRA clearance related issue of SAFIR and utilization of funds from FCRA (Receipt)

Account of SAFIR

The EC was informed that SAFIR Secretariat had received intimation from bank officials of Overseas Branch of Corporation Bank (business bank of SAFIR) that the “No Objection Certificate (NOC)” issued to SAFIR on 17th September, 2010 by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) was more than 5 years old and as per rules of FCRA, the same was required to be renewed. Further, bank officials also informed that as per the revised guidelines of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)/Government of India (GoI), FCRA certificate is required to be renewed, on or before the end of every 5 years and till the renewed NOC/certificate is submitted to the bank, it would not be possible for them to receive/credit any funds in the FCRA Account of SAFIR.

The EC was also informed about the action taken by SAFIR Secretariat for obtaining the clearance certificate. During the discussion, Chairperson of SAFIR, acknowledged the efforts of

SAFIR Secretariat in obtaining the FCRA clearance. He also requested Chairperson, CERC to intervene in this regard for securing clearance. The EC agreed that the invoices for membership fees for the F.Y. 2019-20 be raised on the Members outside India after the receipt of FCRA clearance. However, as proposed and approved in the budget for FY 2020-21, no membership fees invoices for the F.Y. 2020-21 would be raised.

Agenda 3: Reference from ENR, US Department of State's Power sector program and potential cooperation with SAFIR.

Ms. Aine Shiozaki, Program Manager, Bureau of Energy Resources, US Department of State informed the EC that in January 2020, the Power Sector Assistance Program was launched and provided to BERC, Bangladesh; PUCSL, Sri Lanka and ERC, Nepal. This program was focused on regulatory capacity building to enhance efforts in increasing cross border power trade, increase integration of renewable energy and distributed generation technology. As part of the initiative, ENR plans to conduct regional regulatory workshops to enable regulators to discuss best practices and harmonize policies across the region. ENR proposed to support SAFIR on various activities such as tailoring activities, assessments, providing training and assistance in drafting regulations or norms as well as review of any existing regulations. In addition, ENR was keen to support the region's effort to increase regional power trade, enhancing regulations for integration of cleaner technologies, distributed generation, competitive procurement, tariff re-design, utility performance improvement guidance etc.

The EC members expressed appreciation to the US Department of State for proposing to support SAFIR on a variety of issues. Chairperson, ERC of Nepal proposed that in addition to bilateral cooperation, US Department may consider looking at multilateral cooperation and support as well.

Chairperson, PUCSL, Sri Lanka also proposed that in addition to the mentioned topic/areas of support, cross border trade may also be considered for support. Chairperson, CERC stated that there was lot of scope for regional pool or market which could be put in place by deciding the standard framework for the purpose. Hence, to begin with, the EC decided that assistance from ENR could be solicited on a common pool of topics to be suggested by SAFIR members in order to ensure balancing of interests. SAFIR Secretariat was directed to ascertain from EC members on the proposed areas of capacity building required under the broad ambit of the services proposed by ENR. SAFIR Secretariat was also directed to correspond with US Department of State by conveying the interests of the EC members in associating with ENR. It was also decided that point of contact for ENR would be Ms. Rashmi Nair, Deputy Chief (RA), CERC, India.

Agenda 4: Membership Matters

a) Withdrawal of membership

The EC members were informed about the reference received from Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) requesting for withdrawal of membership of SAFIR w.e.f. F.Y. 2017-2018 as they felt that the Forum is primarily related to Electricity Regulatory matters and that participation is primarily from ERCs. EC members agreed to the request.

The ECM was also informed about the request from Assam Electricity Regulatory Commission (AERC) for withdrawal of membership of SAFIR w.e.f. F.Y. 2020-2021 due to financial constraints. In this case, as the request for withdrawal was on account of financial constraints, it was decided that SAFIR Secretariat can inform AERC about this decision and that they could continue to be a member for this financial year and review their decision of continuing in SAFIR.

b) New membership

Shri Dilli Bahadur Singh, Chairperson, ERC Nepal informed the ECM about the requirement of Nepal Govt's approval for a formal membership in SAFIR and that they were continuously following up with their Ministry. He added that a formal approval is likely to be received shortly.

The ECM noted the same and agreed to wait for a formal approval of Nepal Govt. and then accord formal membership in SAFIR.

Agenda5: Membership Fees Matters

a) Outstanding membership fees

Deputy Chief (RA), CERC/ SAFIR Secretariat updated the EC members that SAFIR Secretariat had sent reminder letters to all such Members for payment of membership fees. Accordingly, a few Members have paid the outstanding fees in FY 2020-21. However, 7 members have been issued letters for discontinuation of membership as no fees was being paid by them since long. The EC members noted the same.

b) Request for waiver of fees

Deputy Chief (RA), CERC/ SAFIR Secretariat updated the ECM on the references received from members regarding waiver of fees. After discussion, the EC noted that the SAFIR bye-laws do not allow any waiver of membership fees and as such waiver of membership fees as requested for by Bihar ERC and Karnataka ERC cannot be agreed.

As regards the case of Tripura ERC, it was felt that Tripura being a single member Commission was virtually non-functional for the period from January 2017 to August 2019 in the absence of any Chairman. In such a situation they could not have taken decision for payment of fees. In view of the special circumstances, it was decided that the past dues of Tripura to be condoned.

Agenda 6: Update/Presentation by IRADe on the Working Group of SAFIR

Mr. Pankaj Batra, Project Director, SARI/EI and Mr. Rajiv Ratna Panda, Technical Head, SARI/EI made a presentation (*Annexure -II*) on updates on various activities of the SAFIR Working Group and their proposals for the current year and the next year as follows:

- i. Study on South Asian electricity regulations to develop regulatory pathway for Electricity/ energy exchange and Energy Cooperation in South Asia;
- ii. Study on Regulatory interventions for Grid discipline and Grid reliability in the region;

- iii. Study on Cross Border Electricity Trade;
- iv. Organizing a South Asia Energy Sector Training and Capacity Building Programme on Energy Regulation for Energy Cooperation and Exchange of Electricity in South Asia;
- v. Develop the South Asia Energy/Electricity Regulatory compendium ;
- vi. Develop the South Asia Energy/Electricity Knowledge Resource database;
- vii. SAFIR-Regulatory News letter;
- viii. SAFIR Working Group Meetings.

The EC was informed that the Terms of Reference for the study on South Asian Electricity Regulations to develop regulatory pathway for Electricity/energy exchange and energy cooperation in South Asia has been prepared and that IRADe would share the same with SAFIR Secretariat shortly. Post approval of TOR, the study would commence by November, 2020.

The EC was also informed that the Study on regulatory interventions for grid discipline and grid reliability in the region was awarded to M/s. Price water house Coopers and that the draft report was expected to be shared by September 2020. Thereafter, stakeholder consultation would be held in October 2020, post which the report and its findings would be presented to SAFIR/ SAFIR Working Group for comments in November, 2020.

Officials of IRADe also informed that the scope of work for the study on Cross Border Electricity Trade has undergone changes as suggested in various meetings of SAFIR/SAFIR Working Group and that the revised Terms of Reference for the study would be shared with SAFIR Secretariat at the earliest so that the same is finalized by October, 2020.

IRADe also presented updates on South Asia Energy Sector Training and Capacity Building Programme on Energy Regulation for Energy Cooperation and Exchange of Electricity in South Asia and informed that the first training program is expected to be held in February 2021. They also informed that the South Asia Energy/Electricity Regulatory compendium was released in February 2020 and uploaded on SAFIR website. Officials of IRADe also updated that the South Asia Energy/Electricity Knowledge Resource database would be in form of a website which shall be online by early next year. The officials also presented the progress status on the Common

Minimum Grid Code and that on the formation of Grid Code Review Committee; SARI/EI/IRADe will conduct a comprehensive and detailed consultation with the grid code review committee of each country as well as with all stakeholders (utilities, system operators, planners, regulators and policy makers etc.)

Officials of IRADe also informed that the SAFIR Regulatory News Letter (SRNL) will provide a) Regulatory updates & Policy Developments in the South Asian Region, b) cover the analysis on the Energy Regulatory and Policy Developments and c) will cover the oil and gas sector. It will be a quarterly newsletter and the first newsletter is expected to be issued by November 2020.

The EC appreciated the activities of the SAFIR working group.

Agenda 7: Status update on

- a. Infrastructure Conference
 - b. SAFIR Core Course
 - c. Next meeting of ECM
- a. The EC members were appraised that IRADe with the support of USAID, SARI/EI would host the next Infrastructure Conference in towards the end of the year 2020. This conference could either be virtual/in person depending upon the ongoing Covid situation and that the date for the conference would be coordinated between IRADe and SAFIR Secretariat. The ECM agreed to the proposal.
- b. As already informed in the agenda of budget that the previous core course of SAFIR was conducted in January 2020 at IIM Ahmedabad in coordination with GERC and that this year, GERC had proposed to conduct the core course, the EC decided that proposals may be called for from GERC (for IIM Ahmadabad) and any other interested institutions from member countries of SAFIR for conducting the Core Course (physical/virtual mode) and a decision may be taken by the EC members through circulation.

- c. With regard to conducting the next ECM, SAFIR Secretariat was directed to review the suitability of conducting in-person meeting / virtual meeting after discussion with the EC members on the dates and venue.

At the end of the meeting, Mr. Md. Abdul Jalil, Chairperson, SAFIR/ BERC thanked all ECM members for their participation in the meeting. He thanked his team from BERC and officials of SAFIR Secretariat for their support in organizing and making all arrangements for the meeting. Mr. Jalil further thanked Mr. P.K. Pujari, Chairman, CERC/ SAFIR Secretariat, Mr. Kithsiri Liyanage, Chairperson of PUCSLand Mr. Dilli Bahadur Singh, Chairperson of ERC Nepal for attending the meeting and giving valuable suggestions. Mr. Jalil also appreciated the efforts of CERC/ SAFIR Secretariat officials for effectively updating the EC members on the agenda items. Mr. Jalil also thanked the team from SARI/EI/IRADe for their contribution to the activities of SAFIR. He wished good health and safety for all participants.

Mr. P.K. Pujari, Chairman CERC/ SAFIR Secretariat thanked Mr. Md. Abdul Jalil, Chairperson SAFIR/ BERC and other members for participating in the first ever virtual meeting of the SAFIR Executive Committee. He stressed the need for more active participation from the members especially in the times of the Covid pandemic. He also thanked the officials and staffs of the SAFIR Secretariat for their arduous efforts in coordinating with all SAFIR Members for organizing the meeting. He wished for well-being and safety of all the participants.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

**List of Participants in 19th Executive Committee Meeting (virtual)
held on 28th August 2020 via MS Teams**

1. Shri Md. Abdul Jalil

Chairman, SAFIR and Chairman, Bangladesh Energy Regulatory
Commission, Bangladesh

2. Shri P. K. Pujari

Chairperson
Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) &
SAFIR Secretariat, India

3. Shri Kithsiri Liyanage,

Chairperson
Public Utilities Commission of
Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka

4. Shri Dilli Bahadur Singh

Chairperson
Electricity Regulatory Commission of
Nepal, Nepal

5. Mr. Sanoj Kumar Jha

Secretary, SAFIR /CERC
Central Electricity Regulatory Commission &
SAFIR Secretariat, India

6. Dr. Sushanta K. Chatterjee

Chief(Regulatory Affairs),
Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) &
SAFIR Secretariat, India

7. Ms. Rashmi Somasekharan Nair

Deputy Chief (Regulatory Affairs)
Central Electricity Regulatory Commission & SAFIR
Secretariat, India

- 8. Mr. Arun Kumar**
Assistant Secretary - SAFIR
Central Electricity Regulatory Commission &
SAFIR Secretariat, India
- 9. Mr. Md FirozZaman**
Deputy Director
Bangladesh Energy Regulatory
Commission Bangladesh

Special Invitees

- 1. Ms. Aine Shioznaki**
Program Manager
Bureau of Energy Resources
US Department of State
- 2. Shri Pankaj Batra**
Project Director
SARI/EI/IRADe, India
- 3. Shri Rajiv Ratna Panda**
Technical Head,
SARI/EI/IRADe, India



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Annexure-II

South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy Integration

Presentation on

Updates on the Activities of the SAFIR Working group on “Regulatory Cooperation to Facilitate Knowledge sharing, addressing Crosscutting Energy/ Electricity Regulatory Issues and Capacity Building in South Asia” and Plan for Implementation of Key Activities

Presented by

Mr. Pankaj Batra (Project Director, SARI/EI IRADe) & Mr. Rajiv Ratna Panda (Technical-Head, SARI/EI IRADe)

*19th South Asian Forum for Infrastructure Regulation (SAFIR) Executive Committee Meeting (ECM)
(Virtual Meeting), 11.00 AM , Friday, 28th August 2020, New Delhi, India*



Contents

01

Objective and TOR of the SAFIR Working Group

02

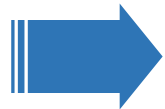
Key Activities of the SAFIR Working Group



Research & Technical Studies - (Three Studies)



South Asia Energy Sector Training & Capacity Building program (SAETC)



South Asia Electricity Regulatory Compendium(SAERC)



South Asia Energy/Electricity Knowledge Resource Database (SAKERD)



SAFIR-Regulatory Newsletter (SRNL)



SAFIR Working Group Meeting (SWGGM)

03

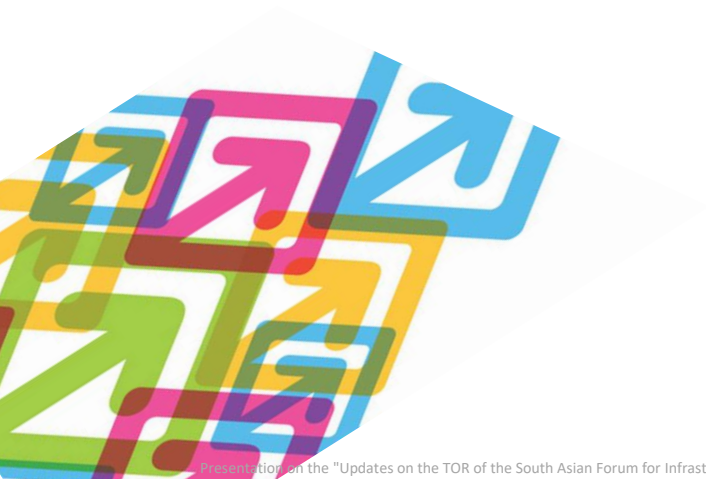
Other Cooperation with SAFIR- Common Minimum Grid Code, SAFIR Conference



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Objective and TOR of the SAFIR Working Group



Key Objective of the SAFIR Working Group



Enhancing **Regulatory Cooperation** to Facilitate **Knowledge sharing**;



Addressing Cross cutting Energy/Electricity Regulatory Issues and Capacity Building in South Asia;



Facilitate **transparent regulatory framework**, promoting **investment** in the South Asia Region.

TOR of the SAFIR Working Group

To **facilitate regulatory capacity building** among member countries at both national and regional levels through information **knowledge sharing** and **skills training**.

To **facilitate** the development of **electricity/energy regulations** by identifying and addressing cross cutting energy/electricity regulatory issues for advancing Exchange of Electricity/Energy in South Asia region.

To provide **inputs on policy & regulations/regulatory opinions/regulatory guidelines** and to **develop model regulations**.

To **undertake research** work on issues relevant to electricity /energy sector regulation through in-house/ outsourcing.

Prepare a detailed **road map** along with various **regulatory interventions** needed in South Asian countries for effective energy cooperation in the region to **prepare annual status report** and **updates on regulatory cooperation** in the South Asia Region.

Create data bank/knowledge repository on energy/electricity related issues. Prepare South Asia Energy/Electricity **Regulatory Compendium**.

To develop web portal on “**South Asia Energy/Electricity Knowledge Resource Database**”. SAFIR–**Regulatory Newsletter** to enhance **regulatory knowledge sharing**.

Key Activities of the SAFIR Working Group



Key Activities of the SAFIR Working Group



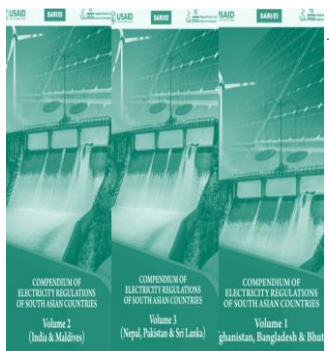
A

**Research & Technical
Studies -
(Three Studies)**



B

**South Asia Energy Sector
Training & Capacity Building**
program on energy regulation for
Energy Cooperation & exchange of
electricity in South Asia



C

**South Asia
Energy/Electricity Regulatory
Compendium (SAERC)**



D

**South Asia Energy/Electricity
Knowledge Resource Database
(SAKERD)**



E

**SAFIR-Regulatory
Newsletter (SRNL)**



F

**SAFIR Working Group
Meeting**



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A Study/Research & Technical Studies -(Three Studies)




A Study/Research under SAFIR Working Group



1 Study /Research on South Asia electricity/electricity regulations to develop regulatory pathway/Road Map for Electricity/Energy exchange and Energy Cooperation (EC) in SA



2 Regulatory interventions for Grid discipline and Grid reliability in the South Asian Region



3 Study on Cross Border Trade of Electricity- Potential Optimum Utilisation and Reduction in Cost of Supply

A1

Study/Research on South Asia electricity/electricity regulations to develop regulatory pathway/Road Map for Electricity/Energy exchange and Energy Cooperation (EC) in SA

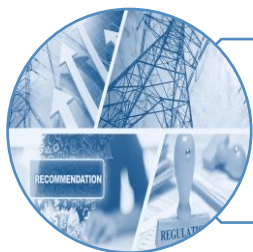
Objective of the Study :



To review, study and analyze the existing **energy/electricity regulations** of each South Asian countries to develop **regulatory pathway/Road Map** for Electricity/Energy exchange, **cross border electricity/energy trade** and **Energy Cooperation (EC)** in South Asia.



Identify and analyze the **relevant provisions** in all existing **energy/electricity regulations** that have an **impact on optimal, reliable and economic Electricity/Energy exchange**, cross border electricity/energy trade and carry out a detailed **gap analysis** for the same, from the perspective of enhanced cross border electricity/energy trade.



Suggest and recommend the **necessary changes/additions** or new regulations that is required in the respective countries' for **advancing Electricity/Energy exchange**, **cross border electricity/energy trade** and **Energy Cooperation (EC)** in South Asia.

Status

ToR Drafted by
SARI/EI

Shall be shared
with SAFIR by
September,2020

Finalization of TOR
by
September,2020

Start of the Study
by November
,2020

Time Period of the
study - 6 Months

A2

Study/Research on Regulatory interventions for Grid discipline and Grid reliability in the South Asian region

Objective of the Study :



To review and analyse all the existing relevant electricity regulations, mechanisms and technical frameworks with respects to Grid discipline and Grid reliability of each South Asian Countries both from the perspective of integration/unification of regional grids of domestic power system of a country as well as cross border power grid integration.

Deliverables:



Detailed set of Regulatory measures/Intervention and Mechanism needed for enhancing Grid discipline & Grid reliability in SA region along with detailed explanatory memorandum.



Roadmap (regional and country wise) and action plan for implementation of above suggested Regulatory measures /Intervention.

Status

Study Awarded to PWC

Draft Report is expected in September 2020

Stakeholder Consultation in October,2020

Presentation to the SAFIR/SAFIR Working Group for comments
Oct/Nov,2020

Report finalisation.
Dec,2020/Jan,2021

A3

Study on Cross Border Trade of Electricity- Potential Optimum Utilisation and Reduction in Cost of Supply

2nd Meeting of SAFIR working group {Dhaka, 4 th December,2020}	2nd Meeting of SAFIR working group {Dhaka, 4 th December,2020}	18th ECM Meeting {5th December 2019}	18th ECM Meeting {5th December 2019}	In the above context, SARI/EI is revising/expanding scope of the TOR of “Study on Cross Border Trade of Electricity....” to make the study holistic, comprehensive, more analytical and taking in to account the renewable energy and grid balancing aspects, ancillary service etc. in a integrated manner
{Overall Renewable energy Growth Scenario and opportunity for Regional Grid Balancing was discussed}	{It was decided to take up another study on the requirement of balancing generation on a regional basis and develop a report for the same.}	{Chairman of SAFIR/BERC suggested that the Working Group should also consider working on methods to reduce the cost of supply . This could be added as an objective in the Study on Cross Border Trade in Electricity }	{ It was also suggested that the Working Group could assess as to how balancing costs can be reduced due to the flexibilization of thermal power so that there is no economic loss }	





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B

South Asia Energy Sector **Training & Capacity Building** program on energy regulation for Energy Cooperation & exchange of electricity in South Asia

SARI/EI

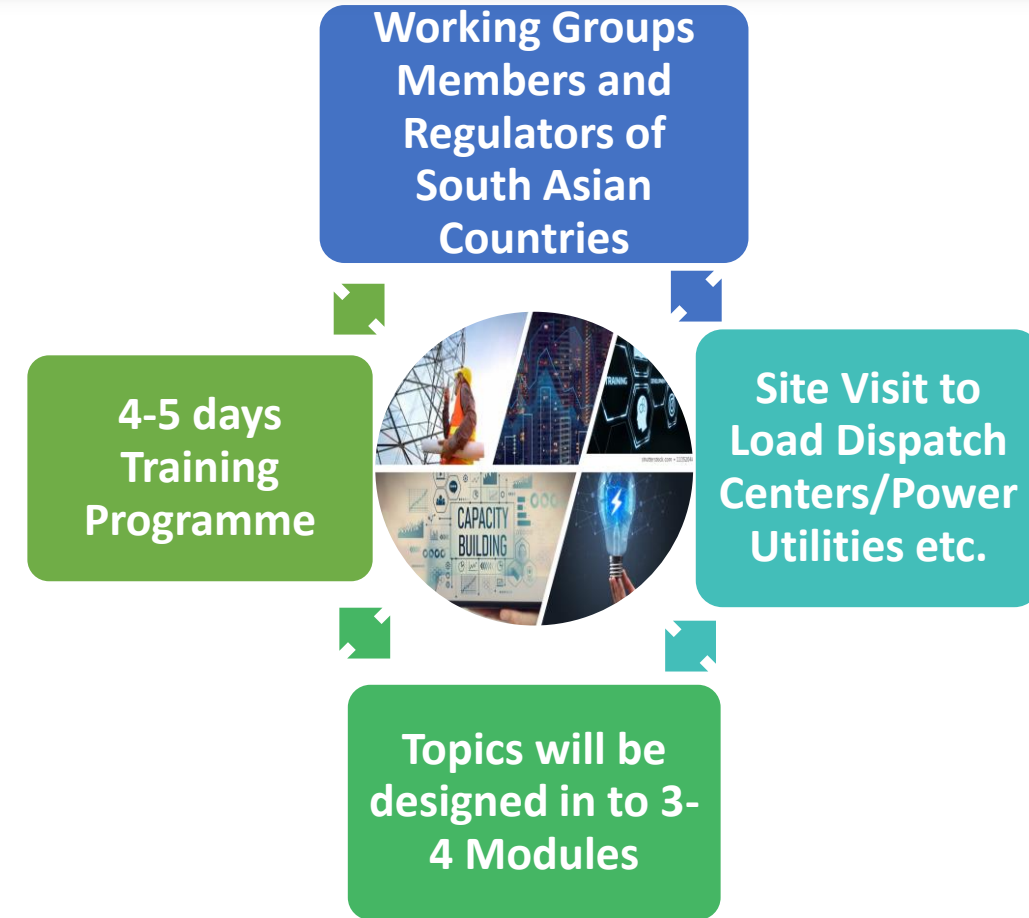
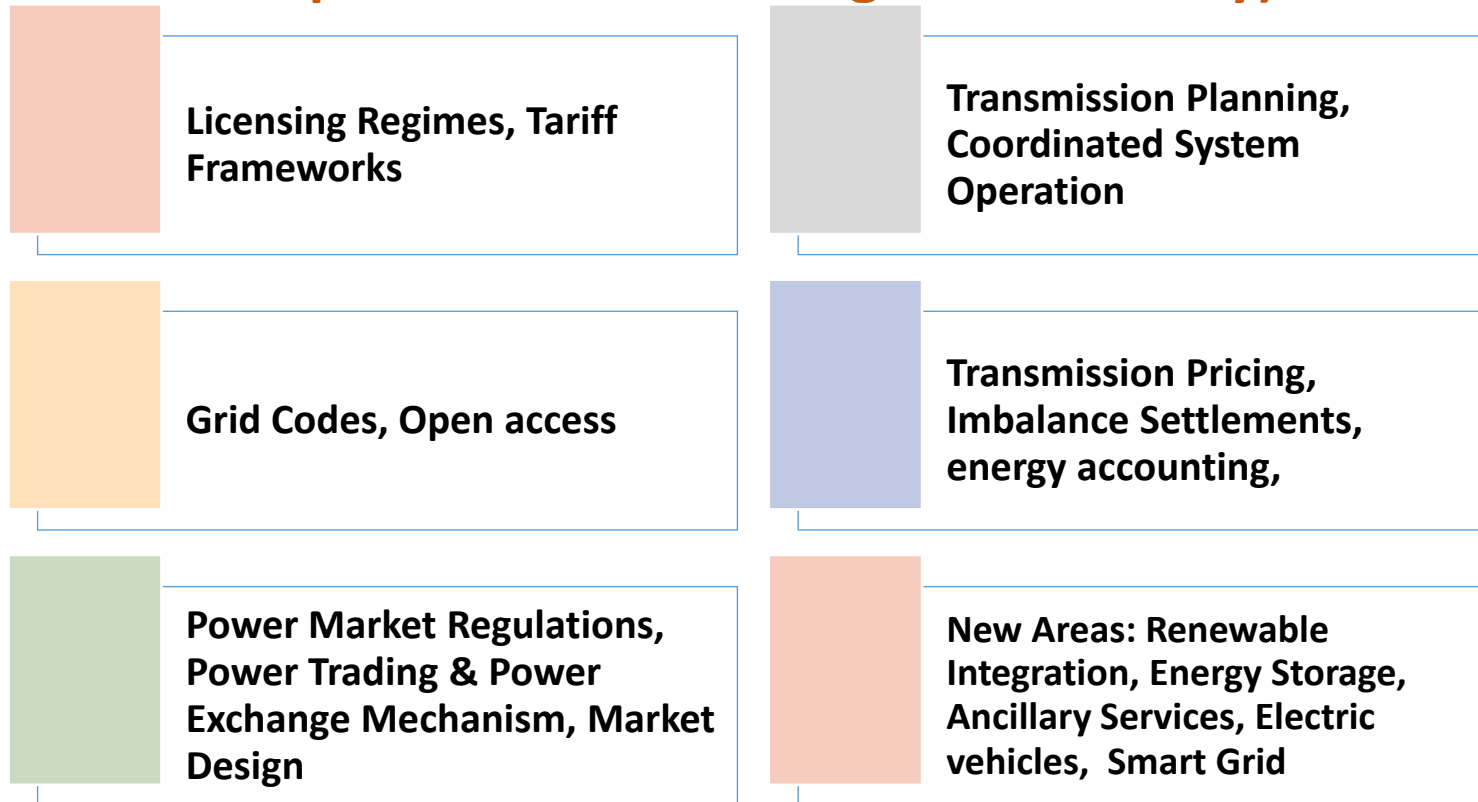


IRADE Integrated Research and
Action for Development

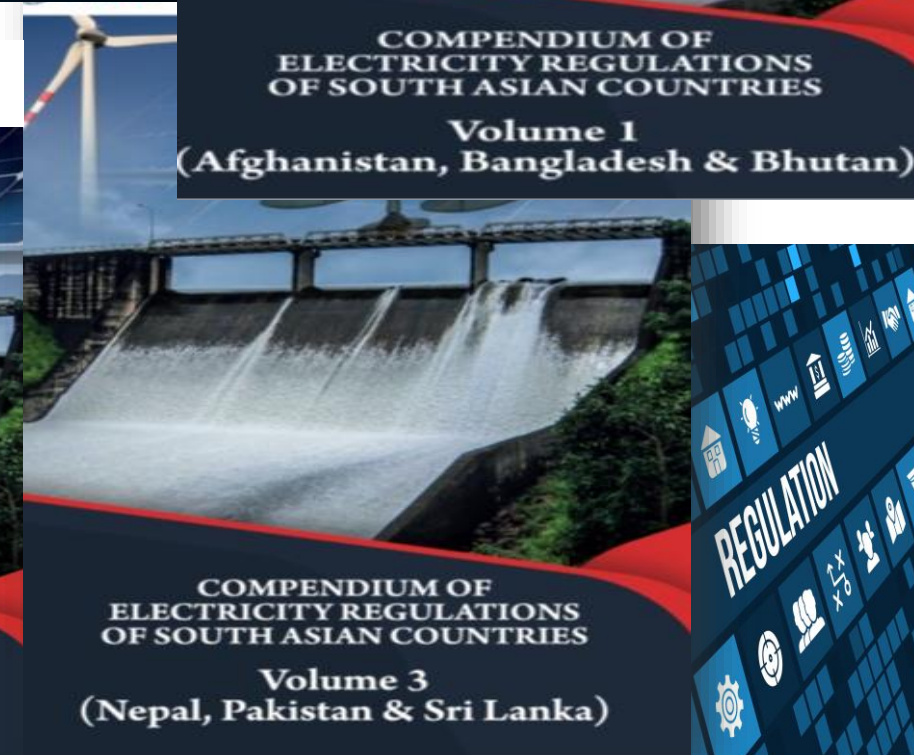
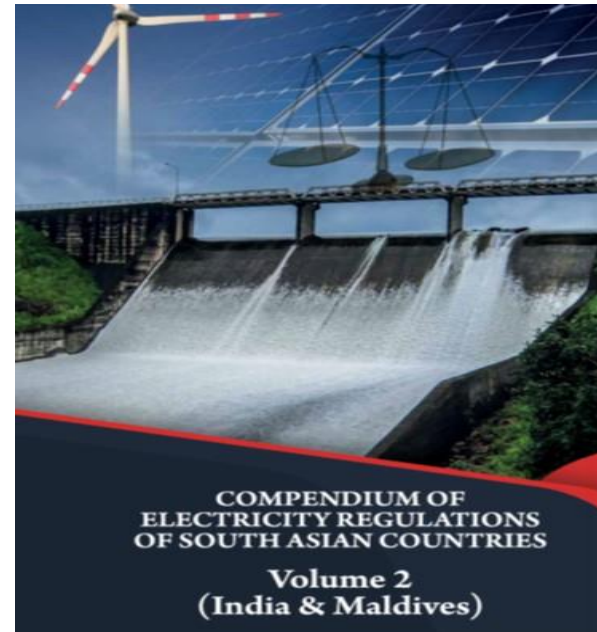
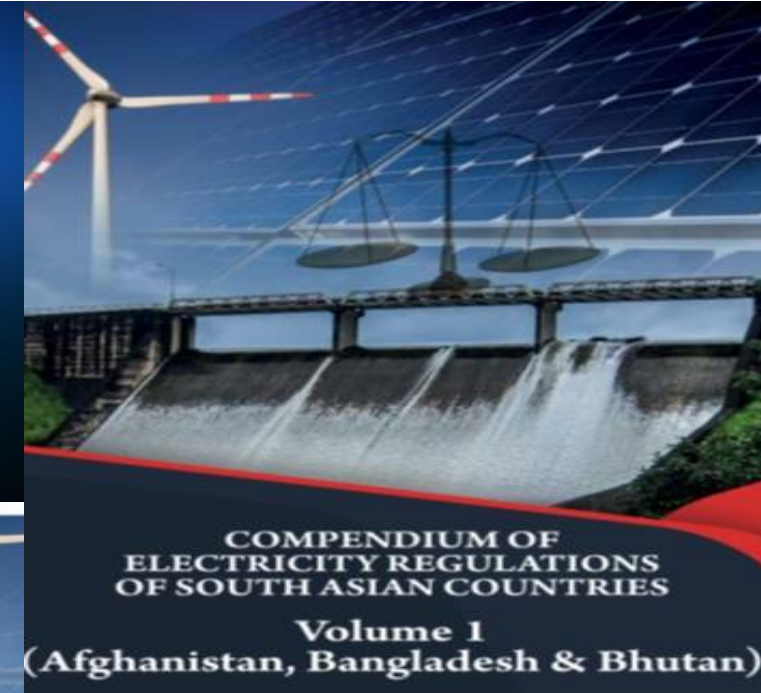


B South Asia Energy Sector Training & Capacity Building program on energy regulation for Energy Cooperation & exchange of electricity in South Asia

Key Topics to be Covered (Regulatory Aspects of Energy Cooperation and exchange of electricity)



C South Asia Electricity Regulatory Compendium



C

South Asia Electricity Regulatory Compendium

Compendium (A first of its kind in SA) has been prepared

Released in the SAFIR Conference 19th February, 2020, New Delhi

Compendium-Comprehensively Captures all aspects (Three Volumes)

Primary Legislation, Key Policies, Guidelines

Regulations

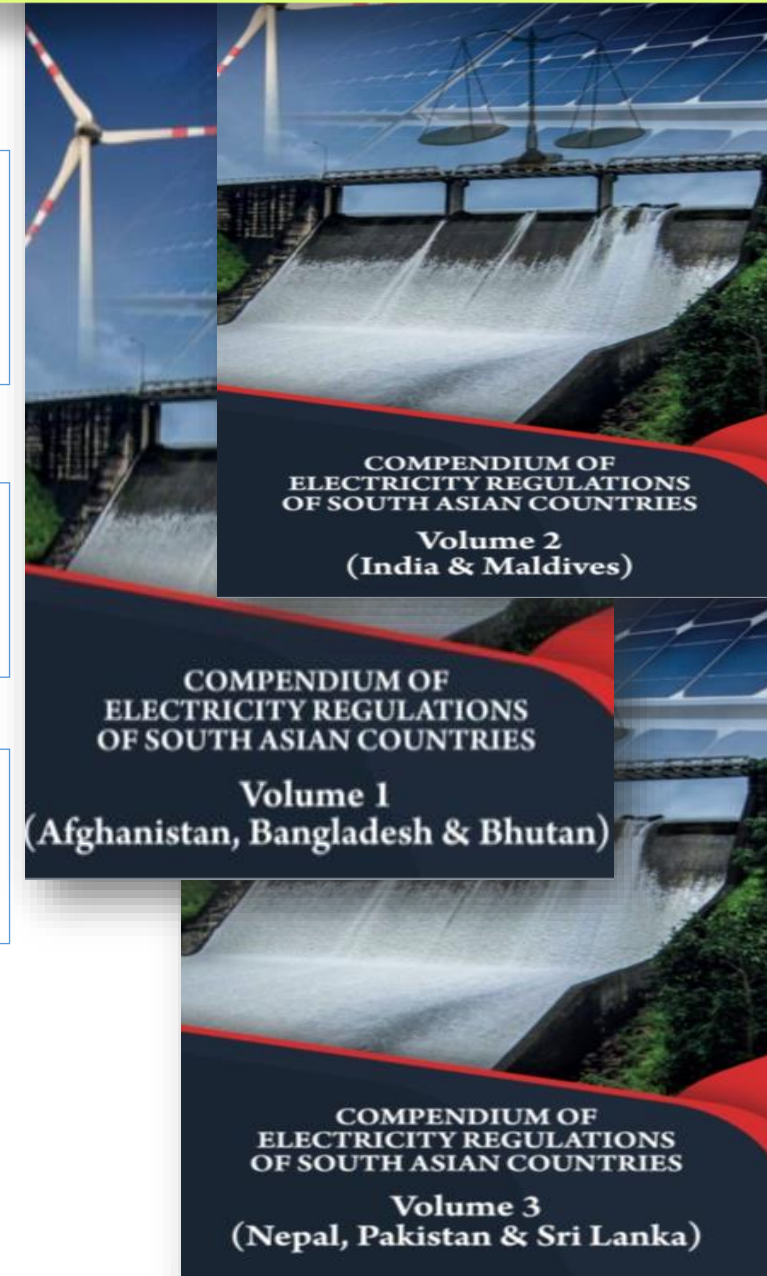
Technical Standards

Grid Code, Transmission Pricing, Open Access,

Power Trade & Markets, Cross Border Electricity Trade

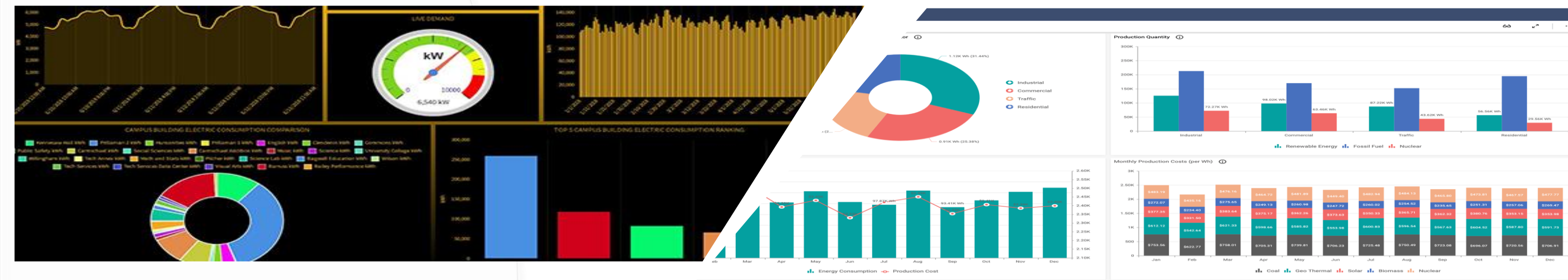
Licensing, Generation and Transmission Tariffs

Six Monthly Updating & Yearly Edition





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D South Asia Energy/Electricity Knowledge Resource Database (**SAKERD**)



D South Asia Energy/Electricity Knowledge Resource Database (SAKERD)

Aims to Create a Comprehensive Energy/Electricity Sector Data Base

{Online, user friendly, data Analytic, Indicative Graphs, pie charts and Figures, Info graphics, Annual Energy Data Book }

Power Related Time Series Data

Energy Met, Actual Generation , Energy & peak deficits, Rate & volume transaction of PXs

Cross Border (MU & MW), Frequency Profile, Diversity Factor, T & D losses

Electricity Generation Capacity and Transmission Network

Installed capacity & Fuel Mix, Transmission sector

Regional Power Transfer Capacity, Basic Power Plant details

Key Energy Statistics (Both Year wise and Past Trends & Forecasts, Country Wise)

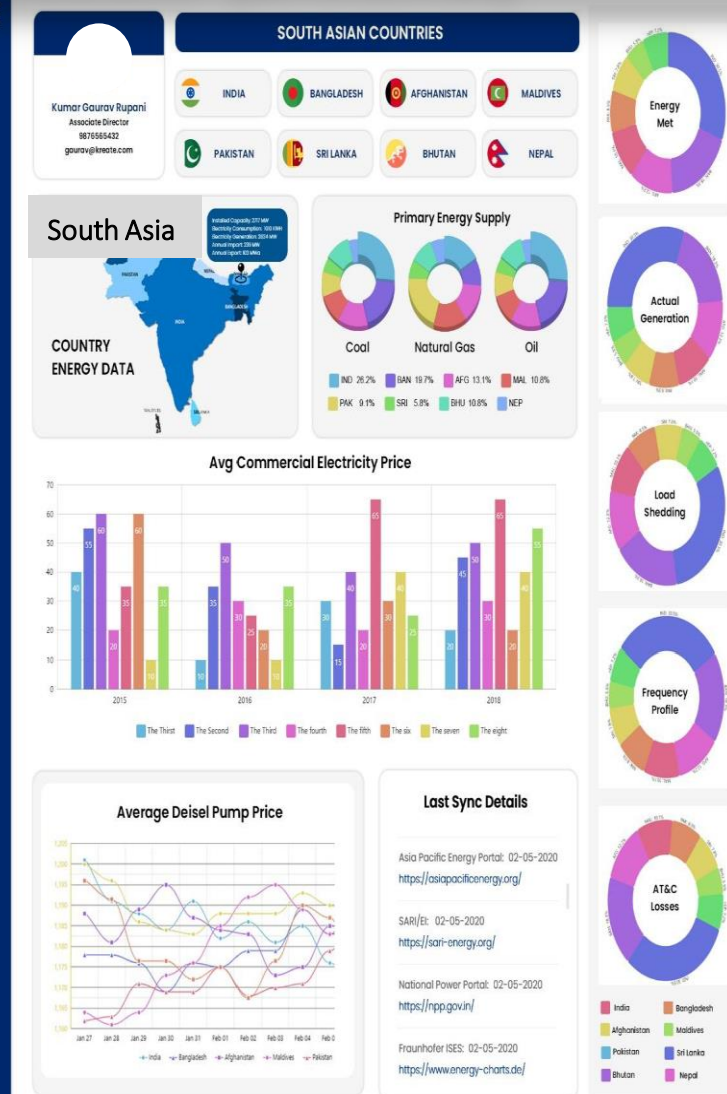
Per capita energy consumption, Energy resource potential & reserves, Primary Energy Supply & Demand

Total energy consumption & sector wise consumption, Energy Balance, Energy access

Key Policy and Regulations

Key Energy & Power Sector Related Laws, Policy & Regulations

National Power & Energy Sector Master Plans/Projection etc.



Status



Expected to be awarded
by September 2020



Submission of Report,
approval of proposed
design, November, 2020



Development and parallel
testing of Website &
Software, February , 2021



Go live, May,2021

E SAFIR Regulatory News Letter (**SRNL**)



E SAFIR Regulatory News Letter (SRNL)



Regulatory updates & Policy Developments in the Region



Analysis on the Energy Regulatory and Policy Developments



Will capture Important development, can have Guest Columns outside of the Region



It includes power, oil and gas sector



To be circulated in SA Countries in electronic format. (Quarterly)

Status



Concept Note, Draft Template & Format by SARI/EI by September 2020



Sharing the Concept Note, Draft Template & Format with SAFIR, September 2020



Finalisation of Concept Note, Draft Template & Format, Octobre, 2020



Issue of First Go live, November 2020

F SAFIR Working Group Meeting



F SAFIR Working Group Meeting



First Meeting of
SAFIR Working
Group

15th-16th May,
2018

Colombo, Sri Lanka



Second SAFIR Working
Group meeting

4th December 2019
Dhaka, Bangladesh



Third SAFIR Working
Group meeting
(Virtual)

November, 2020



Fourth SAFIR Working
Group meeting

Sri Lanka, January,
2021

Organising two/three meetings of SAFIR Working Group in a year

Continuous Interaction: Regular meetings are essential for ensuing a Consultative & participatory process



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Other Cooperation with SAFIR

Common Minimum Grid Code (CMGC), SAFIR Conference

Common Minimum Grid Code (CMGC): Objective

- The Common Minimum Grid Code for South Asia : lays down the **rules, guidelines and standards** to be followed by various South Asia country participants in the system for cross border trading in electricity, while operating the power system, in the **most secure, reliable, economic and efficient** manner.



*Facilitation of cross border trading of power, while **ensuring secure, reliable, economic and efficient** operation of the grid.*

*Facilitation of the **coordinated optimal** operation of the South Asian Grid.*

Facilitation of coordinated and optimal maintenance planning of generation and transmission facilities in the South Asian grid.

Common Minimum Grid Code (CMGC): Progress

SARI/EI Drafted CMGC and shared with all Regulators & stakeholders of SA countries

Conducted Stakeholder Consultation in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal

Presented CMGC in the 2nd meeting of SAFIR Working Group (Dhaka, 4th Dec, 2020) & in the 18th ECM Meeting (5th December 2019)

18th ECM recommended that each member country may form a Grid Code Review Committee consisting of all the stakeholders to discuss various features of the draft CMGC

SARI/EI/IRADe were requested to do more detailed and comprehensive consultation with the grid code review committee of each country as well as with all stakeholders (utilities, system operators, planners, regulators and policy makers etc.)

Next Step

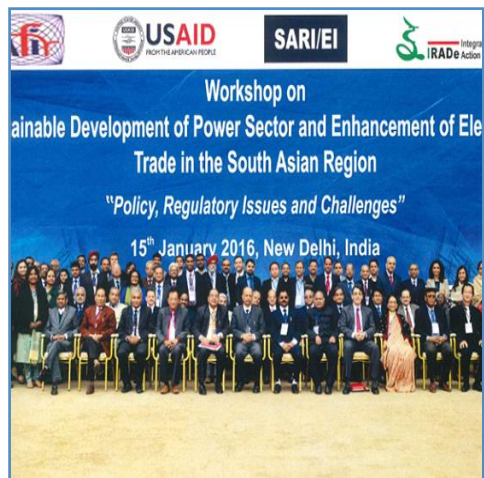
First Consultation with grid code review committees

More Detailed Consultation with utilities, system operators, planners, regulators and policy makers etc

Second Consultation with grid code review committees and Finalisation of Draft

Submission of Revised CMGC to the Chairperson of Regulatory Commissions of SA Countries

SARI/EI Partnership for SAFIR Conference



SARI/EI has successfully partnered with SAFIR for the Annual SAFIR Conference in the year 2016 & 2020



CLDP, SAFIR and SARI/EI Workshop on "Power Pool Governance and Interconnection" -Le Meridien Hotel April 25-26 2019 New Delhi, India



SAFIR Conference on "Regional Energy Integration & Cross Border Energy Trade: A New Renaissance for Growth & Development of South Asia Region, 19th February 2020,

Key Topics Covered in the last Conference

Regulatory and Policy Frameworks for Deeper Energy/Electricity Integration, Advancing Cross Border Energy Trade in South Asia.

Strategy for Transitioning South Asia from Bilateral to Trilateral and Multilateral Power Trade and Development of Competitive Regional Power Market in the South Asia Region.

Creating Conductive Environment for Investment framework in Regional Energy Infrastructures Projects in South Asia



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Thank You