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Webinar: “Opportunities and Challenges for Rural Off-Grid Lighting and Distribution Markets in India”

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**Sustainable Energy for All Initiative**

1.3 billion people worldwide are without access to electricity, and a billion more have only intermittent access. 2.8 billion people lack access to clean cooking solutions.

In response, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched a new initiative in 2011 by the same name, calling on governments, businesses, and civil society to make commitments to action to accomplish **three objectives** by 2030:

- **Ensuring universal access to modern energy services.**
- **Doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.**
- **Doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.**

The UN General Assembly Member States have unanimously declared 2014-2024 as the **Decade of Sustainable Energy for All.**
Energy Access Practitioner Network

1600 members
>50 million households electrified
191 countries

Organization types in Practitioner Network membership*

* Based on a Spring 2013 survey (191 respondents).
Energy Access in India

• The World Energy Outlook estimates that there are currently 289 million people without access to electricity in India.

• Decentralized energy solutions have an important role in advancing access to energy. Examples of innovative approaches and initiatives across a range of technologies. However, scale and absence of an enabling ecosystem pose challenges.

• Fragmentation and lack of coordination amongst various initiatives identified as a key barrier in addressing issues facing the off-grid sector. Overwhelming agreement on the need for a country-wide decentralized energy focused network.
Practitioner Network in India

• The Practitioner Network has a strong membership base in India – close to **300 member organizations** report operating in the country.

• Working in collaboration with **key networks and organizations** to facilitate the creation of a **country-wide network** of clean energy enterprises in India.

• Proposed network will bring together **social enterprises** with additional membership from **other stakeholder groups** such as the private sector, research organizations, financial institutions, and policy makers.
Key Areas of Activity

- The key areas of activity for the proposed network include:
  - Policy Advocacy (including regulatory frameworks)
  - Access to Finance
  - Skills and Training
  - Technology and Innovation (including standards and certification)
  - Information and Networking Hub

- The proposed network will represent the collective voice of Indian entrepreneurs and be linked with the Energy Access Practitioner Network and the Sustainable Energy for All initiative.
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