

TERI launches Capacity Building Hub at UN Sustainable Energy For All Forum in New York

New York, June 4: A capacity building hub called the "Specialized Training, Education and Experiential Resources (STEER)" was launched by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and TERI University on the sidelines of the first annual Sustainable Energy for All Forum (SE4ALL), being held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from June 4-6. Over 1,000 global leaders, experts and energy practitioners are participating in the deliberations that include representatives from government, business, international organizations and civil society groups, to review progress and share innovative solutions. The UN Decade of SE4ALL (2014-2024) initiative will focus on energy for women and children's health during the initial two years.

The SE4ALL initiative has three objectives: ensuring universal access to modern energy services, doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency and the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix by 2030. Over \$50 billion in commitments were made by businesses and others at the Rio+20 Conference in 2012.

Said **TERI's Director General Dr R K Pachauri**: "TERI as a research institute and TERI University as a research-based institution of higher learning have always built their activities on finding solutions to the growing challenge of inadequate access to clean and affordable energy for all citizens of Planet Earth, ensuring continuous improvements in the efficiency of production and use of energy, and moving towards secure and sustainable supply of energy produced from renewable resources. The establishment of this Capacity Building Hub is a culmination of TERI's and TERI University's comprehensive activities in this vast field, and a visionary, though humble, effort to serve the UN Secretary General's programme towards Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All). Creating appropriate capacity and knowhow at every level of society is an essential ingredient for the success of SE4All."

"TERI has been at the forefront in underscoring the importance of sustainable energy for sustainable development. With its demonstrable success of providing capacity building support to developing countries and practical solutions in bringing energy access to those who need it, I am confident that at SE4ALL's Capacity Building Hub, we *will work together to transform lives,"* added Kandeh K Yumkella, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Sustainable Energy for All.

Among the highlights of the event was a panel discussion, where the speakers included Mr Mohinder Gulati, COO, SE4ALL, Dr R K Pachauri, Director General, TERI and Chancellor, TERI University, Mr I H Rehman, Director, Social Transformation Division, TERI, Minister Silas Lwakabamba from Rwanda and Nebojsa Nakicenovic of IIASA.

Role and relevance of STEER

TERI says the STEER hub will create the confidence, through building requisite capacities, among all stakeholders of the SE4ALL initiative to deliver on the SE4ALL goals. TERI has a long and intensive record of research and training across the value chain of the energy sectors – a record that is grounded on hands-on, participatory approaches that focus as much on policy/regulatory design as they do on technology development and deployment.

The TERI University is supplementing this training, based on a problem solving approach with academic learning on the use of state-of-art analytical tools and methods. Together, TERI and TERI University will cater to the needs of the entire spectrum of human resources needed to facilitate a transition to clean and sustainable energy. It is this blend of academic and hands-on learning that TERI/TERI University brings together to offer STEER as a Capacity Building Hub for SE4ALL. In doing so, it will recognize the need to leverage and partner other similar training resources – in the country as well as across the world.

STEER takes a much wider view of the capacities that would be needed to support the achievement of the SE4ALL goals – these go well beyond mere training for fulfilling specific tasks. Capacity building, according to TERI, would include a number of activities designed to empower individuals along the entire energy value chain as well as institutions. It will address the ability, will and skills to initiate, plan, manage, and undertake, specific tasks; human resource and organizational development; and, institutional and legal framework development. Beneficiaries of the STEER would include policy makers, regulators, financiers, industry, private enterprises at all scales, academia, NGOs and consumers.

The endeavor of STEER would be to address SE4All overarching capacity needs. Its multi-dimensional role, therefore, includes the following: awareness generation/sensitization, capacity building and training; knowledge assimilation and dissemination; design and delivery of academic programmes; and, identification of research gaps. In promoting sustainable energy solutions, the STEER hub will help

build towards the UN Climate Change Summit in September, which will focus on solutions to climate challenges.

ABOUT TERI

TERI is an independent, not-for-profit research institute focused on energy, environment, and sustainable development and devoted to efficient and sustainable use of natural resources. Since its inception in 1974, TERI has emerged as an institution of excellence for its path-breaking research, and is a global brand widely respected by the political leaders, policy makers, corporate entities as well as the civil society at large. For more details, please click: http://www.teriin.org/index.php

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