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ICIMOD



DAY 3 - High Level Plenary Session 4

Time: 09:30 – 11:00 | Venue: Himalaya Ball Room, Hotel Himalaya

Title: Sector Outlook - The Future of Solar Irrigation

Description: This session will summarize discussions from the forum thus far and look toward the future of solar irrigation in South Asia and beyond. The focus will be on exploring key opportunities and challenges and addressing barriers to adoption in different contexts.

Moderator: Dr. Jonathan Demenge, Head of Cooperation, Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC)

Panelists:

1. Ms. Marwa Majdoub, Energy, Climate and Environment Lead for North Africa, Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, British Embassy, Tunis
2. Dr. Stephan Russek^[S(1)], Head of Development, German Embassy Kathmandu [TBC]
3. Mr. Tazmilur Rahman, Deputy Director, KfW Development Bank, Bangladesh
4. Dr. Sunil Kumar Ambast, Chairman, Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), India
5. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Ex-Chairperson, Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR), Pakistan
6. Mr. Bishal Thapa, Senior Director, CLASP, India
7. Ms. Sharon Yeti, CEO, Powerlive, Zimbabwe

Questions to the Panellists

Guiding Questions Round 1 (5 mins for each Panelist)

SN	Name	Guiding Questions
1	Ms. Marwa Majdoub	Given North Africa's energy scenario and current climate uncertainties, what place do you see for solar irrigation with respect to the region's broader climate goals? And how can regional collaboration better foster responsible growth of this sector?
2	Dr. Stephan Russek, Head of Development, German Embassy Kathmandu	What are the most effective development strategies for scaling solar irrigation in developing countries from the perspective of Development Partners? How can climate resilience and social inclusion be an essential part of the scaling strategies?
3	Mr. Tazmilur Rahman, Deputy Director, KfW Development Bank, Bangladesh	Solar irrigation is still largely subsidy dependent, particularly in South Asia. How can we diversify funding sources for subsidizing solar irrigation? Do climate funds have a role here?
4	Dr. Sunil Kumar Ambast, Chairman, Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), India	Given recent concerns about the risks of groundwater over-extraction with solar irrigation in water-stressed regions, what recommendations can be provided to governments on the suitability of solar irrigation?
5	Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Ex-Chairperson, Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR), Pakistan	From your perspective, what should be the key research priorities and questions for solar irrigation adoption and impact, particularly for South Asia?
6	Mr. Bishal Thapa, Senior Director, CLASP ^[SS(N2)] , India	What role does solar energy play in the wider context of energy efficient technologies for the future? What other technologies can be leveraged to support our move towards an energy efficient future.
7	Ms. Sharon Yeti, CEO, Powerlive, Zimbabwe	What support do organizations like Powerlive need from an enabling environment perspective to promote energy-efficient and cost-effective solar irrigation technologies?

Guiding Questions Round 2 (3-5 mins for each Panelist)

Overall, from listening to discussions over the past two days, what are your 1-2 key takeaways with respect to solar irrigation as an effective strategy for a climate resilient future?

If you had to create a roadmap for the future of solar irrigation, what would that look like and what key steps would we need to take next to get there.