

# DRIVING POWER SECTOR REFORMS FOR ENHANCED RENEWABLE ENERGY GROWTH AND SECTOR PERFORMANCE

ADB

30 JANUARY 2025

09:00 AM – 03:15 PM

11:30 AM – 05:45 PM

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## ABOUT THE EVENT

The “Serendipity Knowledge Program” (SKOP) is ADB’s knowledge program dedicated to Sri Lanka, designed to respond effectively to the country’s needs in line with the vision of ADB as a knowledge solutions bank. SKOP seeks to share knowledge on issues relevant to Sri Lanka and facilitate discussion among stakeholders.

The latest SKOP event will focus on the reforms and financial sustainability of Sri Lanka’s power sector. It aims to contribute to the dialogue to prepare the country for higher shares of renewable energy and improve customer engagement through various renewable energy and power sector policy reforms and infrastructure projects, including grid digitalization. The workshop will feature a series of keynote speeches, roundtable discussions, interactive sessions, and networking opportunities with experts from the energy, financial, academia, and private sectors.

The key objectives of the workshop are to provide a platform for stakeholders to discuss and share best practices, challenges, and opportunities in the power sector. These objectives include learning from successful sector reforms in other economies and the role of grid digitalization, exploring long-term and modern visions for Sri Lanka’s power sector, addressing the challenges and opportunities of achieving the 70% renewable energy target, and discussing the role of grid digitalization and renewable energy in smart grids and cities

This event will be attended by stakeholders including government officials, private sector representatives, think tanks, development partners, civil society and ADB staff.



**UDAYANGA HEMAPALA**  
Secretary  
Ministry of Energy



**PRIYANTHA WIJAYATUNGA**  
Senior Director  
Energy Sector Office  
Sectors Group  
ADB



**TAKAFUMI KADONO**  
Country Director  
Sri Lanka Resident Mission  
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**SHIRANTHI RATHNAYAKE**  
Director General  
Department of National Planning  
Ministry of Finance,  
Planning and Economic Development



**SUJATA GUPTA**  
Director Energy  
Energy Sector Office  
Sectors Group  
ADB



**TILAK SIYAMBALAPITIYA**  
Chairman  
Ceylon Electricity Board



**T M J W BANDARA**  
Chairman  
Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority



**PUBUDU NIROSHAN**  
Director General  
Power Sector Reform Secretariat  
Ministry of Energy



**DAMITHA KUMARASINGHE**  
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Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka



**WASANTHA EDUSSURIYA**  
General Manager  
Ceylon Electricity Board



**NARENDRA DE SILVA**  
General Manager  
Lanka Electricity Company



**SHAVINDRANATH FERNANDO**  
Former President  
Sri Lanka Institute of Engineers



**CHAMPIKA PERIYAPPERUMA**  
Director / Chief Technology Officer  
Regen Renewables (Pvt.) Ltd



**LEIGH HANCHER**  
Director  
Energy Union Law Area at the  
Florence School of Regulation  
European University Institute



**LARS SØRGARD**  
Director of the Bergen Center for  
Competition Law and Economics at the  
Norwegian School of Economics in Bergen,  
and former Director General at the  
Norwegian Competition Authority



**JOSÉ AGUADO**  
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**ASIER LARRETXEA**  
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**AREEPORN ASAWINPONGPHAN**  
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**SERGIO UGARTE**  
Former Vice Minister of  
Energy of Peru



**JAIMES KOLANTHARAJ**  
Principal Energy Specialist  
ADB



**PRATHAJ HAPUTHANTHRI**  
MC



ZOOM REGISTRATION

# DRIVING POWER SECTOR REFORMS FOR ENHANCED RENEWABLE ENERGY GROWTH AND SECTOR PERFORMANCE

## Program

MC: Prathaj Haputhanthri

09:00 - 09:10 AM

### Welcome Remarks

Sujata Gupta, Director Energy, Energy Sector Office, Sectors Group, ADB

09:10 - 09:20 AM

### Opening Remarks

Priyantha Wijayatunga

Senior Director, Energy Sector Office, Sectors Group, ADB

09:20 - 09:50 AM

### Setting the Scene - Starting Point for Sri Lanka's Power System

Best practices and lessons learned from 100% electrification till now  
Tilak Siyambalapitiya, Chairman, Ceylon Electricity Board

From crossroads to stabilization and recovery: Sector reform and the  
challenge of not leaving anyone behind

Udayanga Hemapala, Secretary, Ministry of Energy

09:50 - 10:10 AM

### Coffee Break

10:10 - 10:55 AM

### Keynote Speech 1 – Successful Sector Reforms in Other Economies

Common challenges and best international practices in the electricity sector reforms

Leigh Hancher, Director of the Energy Union Law Area at the Florence School of Regulation,  
European University Institute

Dr. Lars Sjørgard, Director of the Bergen Center for Competition Law and Economics at the  
Norwegian School of Economics in Bergen, and former Director General at the Norwegian  
Competition Authority

10:55 - 11:50 AM

### Roundtable 1: Revolutionizing the Power Sector – Policy Options for a Long Term and Modern Vision of Sri Lanka

#### Panelists:

Shavindranath Fernando, Former President, Sri Lanka Institute of Engineers

Pubudu Niroshan, Director General, Power Sector Reform Secretariat, Ministry of Energy

Damitha Kumarasinghe, Director General, Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka

Takafumi Kadono, Country Director, Sri Lanka Resident Mission, ADB

#### Roundtable chair:

Priyantha Wijayatunga, Senior Director, Energy Sector Office, Sectors Group, ADB

11:50 - 12:00 NOON

### Question & Answer Session

12:00 - 13:00

### Lunch Break

## DRIVING POWER SECTOR REFORMS FOR ENHANCED RENEWABLE ENERGY GROWTH AND SECTOR PERFORMANCE

13:00 - 13:35

### Keynote Speech 2– Powering Progress for the Future

Role of grid digitalization and renewable energy in building smart grids and smart cities - International best practices

José Aguado, Head of the Electrical Engineering Department, University of Malaga

ADB support to address digitalization of grids

Jaimes Kolantharaj, Principal Energy Specialist, ADB

13:35 - 14:50

### Roundtable 2: Challenges and Opportunities of achieving 70% RE target (Private sector and digitalization perspective)

#### Short Presentations by:

Asier Larretxea,

International Expert on Energy Transition, Smart Mobility and Sustainability, Spain

Areeporn Asawinpongphan,

Research Fellow on Energy Policy, Thailand Development Research Institute

#### Panelists:

Wasantha Edussuriya, General Manager, Ceylon Electricity Board

Narendra De Silva, General Manager, Lanka Electricity Company

Champika Periyapperuma, Director / Chief Technology Officer, Regen Renewables (Pvt.) Ltd

Sergio Ugarte, former Vice Minister of Energy of Peru

T.M.J.W. Bandara, Chairman, Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority

Roundtable chair:

Sujata Gupta, Director Energy, Energy Sector Office, Sectors Group, ADB

14:50 - 15:00

### Question & Answer Session

15:00 - 15:15

### Closing Remarks:

Takafumi Kadono, Country Director, Sri Lanka Resident Mission, ADB

Shiranthi Rathnayake, Director General, Department of National Planning, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

