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SOUTH ASIA SUBREGIONAL WORKSHOP

INCLUSIVE CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITIONS IN BANGLADESH, MALDIVES AND SRI LANKA

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Empowering Youth for Bangladesh's Green Energy Transition

Bangladesh targets **Net Zero by 2070**, requiring a skilled, inclusive green workforce.

The energy transition is a **critical opportunity** for youth employment and MSME development.

Youth unemployment at 14%, with 85% in the informal sector.

Women face barriers to entry in energy jobs due to limited access to TVET and mobility issues.

Data source: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2025/05/20/accelerating-green-jobs-and-skills-in-the-bangladesh-content-industry>;
<https://www.ilo.org/resource/statement/ilos-call-empowering-youth-decent-work-and-sustainable-development-0>

Gender-Responsive TVET

Innovations

Targeted recruitment of **young women** into solar and RE roles.

Partnership with **Grameen Shakti** to train female solar technicians.

Participation of **Women's Development Committees** in projects like ARISE and POISED.

Gender-friendly infrastructure: hostel support, flexible schedules, safe campuses.

ADB's Approach to TVET in the Energy

RE sector projected to employ ~242,800 in Bangladesh by 2035 (mainly in solar PV).

60% of existing RE jobs require **minimal formal training** — highlighting a **skills gap**.

IDCOL's **renewable energy training program** under SEIP enrolled 175 trainees against a target of 425; all trainees were certified, and **99 secured employment**, including **3 women graduates**.

Partner with women's colleges, NGOs, and community networks and Role Model Campaigns

Skills Driving MSME and Local Economy

- Trained youth apply skills to create or join local energy-linked enterprises.

- TVET complements ADB's rural electrification programs, enabling productive use of energy.

- Focus on off-grid solar, agro-processing, electric mobility, and repair services.

- Builds resilience and reduces migration by strengthening local economies.

Building a Resilient and Inclusive Energy

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TVET for the energy sector is key to a just, inclusive transition.

ADB's initiatives address youth unemployment, skills gaps, and gender barriers.

Integrated approach links policy, infrastructure, training, and livelihoods.

Next Steps for Scaling

Expand **public-private partnerships** for job placements.

Strengthen monitoring on **gender and employment outcomes**.

Scale **successful models** (e.g., solar technician training) to new regions.

Leverage ADB's subregional collaboration to **harmonize and replicate** good practices.