

# 2023 Clean EDGE Asia Workshop

Climate and Energy Security: Intersections in Developing Asia Tuesday, July 18, 2023 | 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. ET

The Army and Navy Club

Ballroom (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

901 17<sup>th</sup> St NW

Washington, D.C. 20006

Coffee/tea and light pastries will be provided in the morning.

Alcoholic beverages and a light buffet will be provided for the afternoon reception.

As Asian governments seek to achieve a clean energy transition as part of their decarbonization goals, barriers remain around regional coordination and international finance mechanisms to support the process. Renewable energy sources such as hydrogen have great potential for widescale implementation to reduce emissions in countries like South and Southeast Asia but developing supply chains for hydrogen production and transportation pose significant challenges. Both South and Southeast Asia have booming economies that would benefit greatly from increased jobs and investments that will increase renewable energy capacity within its energy mix, especially as countries continue to grapple with the energy crisis following the Russian invasion of Ukraine. In this workshop, we will hear perspectives from NBR's Clean EDGE Asia Fellows hailing from South and Southeast Asia on how the United States can partner with its allies in those two regions to accelerate the global transition to clean energy systems.

NBR's project on Clean EDGE Asia is made possible with funding through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Energy Resources (ENR). Through a range of activities—including policy workshops, commissioned research, and year-long fellowship opportunities for rising leaders from the region—this initiative engages high-level stakeholders from government, business, and the research community to craft market-based recommendations for public policy on energy security and access in the Indo-Pacific.

12:00 p.m. – 12:05 p.m. Welcome and Introduction

Ali Szalwinski

The National Bureau of Asian Research

12:05 p.m. – 12:20 p.m. Opening Keynote Remarks

Anna Shpitsberg

Bureau of Energy Resources, U.S. Department of State

12:20 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Session 1: The Role of Hydrogen and Foreign Investments in

**Southeast Asia's Energy Transition** 

Moderator: Clara Gillispie

The National Bureau of Asian Research

Panelists: Tuyen Duc Nguyen

Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Vietnam

2022-23 Clean EDGE Asia Fellow

Paper Topic: "Vietnam Hydrogen Report"

Thi Ngoan Nghiem *GIZ*, *Vietnam* 

2022-23 Clean EDGE Asia Fellow

Paper Topic: "The Potential of Hydrogen for Decarbonizing Iron and Steel

Production in Vietnam"

Le Nguyen

US-ASEAN Business Council

-10 Minute Break-

1:40 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. Session 2: Renewable Energy Targets for South Asia's

**Decarbonization Goals** 

Moderator: Mikkal Herberg

The National Bureau of Asian Research University of California, San Diego

Panelists: Ashley Johnson

Office of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Energy

Rahul Tongia

Centre for Social and Economic Progress

2:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Closing Remarks

Thomas Lutken
The National Bureau of Asian Research

3:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. Reception

#### **Speaker List**

#### **Clara Gillispie** – The National Bureau of Asian Research

Clara Gillispie is a Senior Advisor to NBR and serves as the official U.S. delegate to the Energy Research Institute Network. Ms. Gillispie is the author of numerous policy essays and reports on Asian energy issues, including recently co-authoring NBR's "Investments in Energy Transition: Strengthening the Power Sector in South and Southeast Asia." Ms. Gillispie is regularly called on to directly brief her research and analysis to U.S. and Asian government officials, senior industry representatives, and the media, including the New York Times, Washington Post, and NPR's Marketplace.

**Mikkal Herberg** – *University of California, San Diego; The National Bureau of Asian Research* Mikkal Herberg is a Senior Advisor to NBR and Research Director of NBR's Energy Security Program. Mr. Herberg is also a senior lecturer on international and Asian energy at the School for Global Policy and Strategy, University of California, San Diego. Previously, he spent 20 years in the oil industry in Strategic Planning roles for ARCO, where he was director of global energy and economics. Dr. Herberg writes and speaks extensively on Asian energy issues to the energy industry, governments, and major research institutions in the Asia-Pacific, Europe, and the U.S.

#### **Ashley Johnson** – Office of International Affairs, U.S. Department of Energy

Ashley Johnson is an International Relations Specialist with the Office of Asian Affairs at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). In this role, she coordinates with interagency and international partners on DOE's work in China, Taiwan, South Korea, and Smaller South Asian countries. Prior to this position, Ms. Johnson was the Senior Director of Energy and Environmental Affairs and Next Generation and Fellowship Programs at the National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR), where she led NBR's research on energy security, environmental sustainability, and disaster management and supported NBR's mission to expand opportunities for the next generation of Asia policy specialists. Ms. Johnson received an M.A. from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies and a graduate certificate in Chinese-American Studies from the Hopkins-Nanjing Center. She also holds a B.A. in International Studies from Southwestern University.

## **Thomas Lutken** – The National Bureau of Asian Research

Thomas Lutken is a project manager with the Energy and Environmental Affairs group at NBR. In this role, Mr. Lutken helps manage NBR's ongoing projects on environmental policy, sustainability, and energy security. Prior to joining NBR, he worked as a researcher in U.S.-India Policy Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies and as a Hydrologic Technician for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He earned a bachelor's degree in environmental science from Brown University in 2014 and a master's degree in environmental economics and policy from Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment in 2019, where he researched the economic impacts of electricity quality in rural India.

### Le Nguyen – US-ASEAN Business Council

Le Nguyen is Country Research Analyst and Manager for Vietnam at US - ASEAN Business Council in the Washington D.C. office. Her role involves providing intelligence and advocacy support to the U.S. private sector, focusing on enhancing trade and investment relationships between the United States and ASEAN, with an emphasis on Vietnam.

Prior to joining the Council, Le worked in Tokyo in the fields of management consulting and corporate finance fields for two premier Japanese companies, namely NTT Finance Corporation and IGPI. During her 13 years of working in Japan, she has been involved in projects across various industries, ranging from public transportation, education, IT, logistic to banking and finance. Throughout the projects, she collaborated with key stakeholders, including the Japanese and Vietnamese government, to promote investments and foster business ties between Japan and ASEAN. Le holds a master's degree in management from the Graduate School of Regional Management - Aomori Chuogakuin University, Japan and is trilingual in Vietnamese, English and Japanese.

# **Thi Ngoan Nghiem** – GIZ Vietnam; 2022-23 Clean EDGE Asia Fellow

Thi Ngoan Nghiem is an Energy Advisor at GIZ Vietnam where she is responsible for covering energy markets and policy in Vietnam and the Asia-Pacific area. Ms. Ngoan also has experience in building development strategies for energy companies within an energy transition context. Prior to joining GIZ, she worked on similar topics as a market research department manager at the Vietnam Petroleum Institute. She has also worked at the Institute of Energy Science, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, where she gained experience and worked on energy demand forecasting, optimized development of Vietnam's energy system with consideration to national security, sustainable development, and the master plans of electrical power system development at provincial levels in Vietnam. Ms. Ngoan holds an MBA from the Hanoi University of Science and Technology (HUST). She graduated with an engineering degree from HUST, majoring in energy economics in 2009.

**Tuyen Duc Nguyen** – *Hanoi University of Science and Technology; 2022-23 Clean EDGE Asia Fellow* Nguyen Duc Tuyen is currently a lecturer at the Hanoi University of Science and Technology (HUST), Vietnam and an adjunct associate professor at the Shibaura Institute of Technology, Japan. Before working in Vietnam, he worked and taught at Chiba University, Tokyo University of Science, and The National Institute of Industrial Science and Technology in Japan until 2018. In July 2018, Dr. Nguyen established the 100RE Lab at HUST, with nearly 40 members specializing in renewable energy research, smart grids, and providing energy consulting services. He also built a network of students doing research and organizing the annual Student Forum. Dr. Nguyen has published more than 140 journal and conference papers and is an active reviewer of IEEE, IET, MDPI, IEEJ, Springer, and Elsevier, having reviewed hundreds of papers since 2009. His current research direction is on renewable energy, smart grids, energy storage, electric vehicles, and energy policy. He received his Master's degree in 2009 and a PhD in 2012 at the Shibaura Institute of Technology.

## **Anna Shpitsberg** – Bureau of Energy Resources, U.S. Department of State

Anna Shpitsberg serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Transformation at the U.S. Department of State. Ms. Shpitsberg is responsible for supporting a shift to a decarbonized economy that enables secure and resilient energy systems. Shpitsberg leads efforts and advises on power market reform, clean energy financing, and resilient supply chains to support transitioning power, transport, and end-use sectors. Additionally, she leads U.S. representation at the International Renewable Energy Agency, and other bilateral and multilateral engagements on energy with U.S. allies and partners. In her prior role, Shpitsberg served as Director for Global Power and Renewables at IHS Markit. In this capacity she conducted research on emerging trends in the power sector; collaborated with teams covering power, clean energy technology, upstream energy, climate, economics, transport, and agriculture on possible outcomes for the energy transition; advised executives on trends that may impact their business strategy; led corporate renewable research, including the outlook for the United States; consulted on bespoke renewable projects; and managed the buildout of power market analysis and research in Africa and the Middle East.

## Alison Szalwinski – The National Bureau of Asian Research

Alison Szalwinski is Vice President of Research at NBR. In this role, Ms. Szalwinski provides executive leadership to NBR's policy research agenda and oversees research teams in Seattle and Washington, D.C. She is the author of numerous articles and reports and co-editor of the *Strategic Asia* series along with Ashley J. Tellis and Michael Wills. Prior to joining NBR, Ms. Szalwinski spent time at the U.S. Department of State and the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Her research interests include U.S. alliance relationships, U.S.-China relations, and the implications of great-power competition for U.S. alliances in the region. She holds a BA in Foreign Affairs and History from the University of Virginia and an MA in Asian Studies from Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service.

# Rahul Tongia – Centre for Social and Economic Progress

Rahul Tongia is a Senior Fellow with the Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP) in New Delhi, where his work focuses on technology and policy, especially for sustainable development. Dr. Tongia leads

the Energy, Natural Resources, and Sustainability group at CSEP, and is also active in broader issues of technology. His work spans the entire gamut of energy and electricity, with focuses on supply options including renewable energy (covering finance, grid integration, etc.); smart grids, which use innovative information and communications technology to improve management of the electric utility grid; issues of access and quality; and broader issues of reforms and regulations, including electricity pricing. Dr. Tongia is also a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution and an Adjunct Professor at Carnegie Mellon University and was the founding Technical Member for the Government of India's Smart Grid Task Force. He is also a Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering.

Participant List (as of July 12, 2023)

Chihiro Aita

The National Bureau of Asian Research

Owen Barnert

The National Bureau of Asian Research

Jeanne Choi

U.S. Department of State

Tom Cutler

Cutler International LLC

Mona Dave

National Endowment for Democracy

Albert DeGarmo

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Eliana Guterman

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