

Kanika Chawla is a policy specialist, working at the intersection of India's two revolutions: in renewable energy and in financial markets. As Director of the Centre of Energy Finance at the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) (one of South Asia's leading think-tanks), Ms Chawla manages CEEW's work on enabling the energy transition in emerging economies. She has a special focus on renewable energy policy, finance, and market creation. Her current responsibilities include: analysing financial risks affecting clean energy investments in developing countries; changing market conditions and tax regimes and their impact on renewable energy; managing CEEW's periodic surveys on RE jobs; and convening a high-level working group on renewable energy finance (comprising investors, developers and manufacturers). She is actively engaged with private and public enterprises within and outside India to design and develop new financial de-risking instruments and new financial institutions, such as green banks. Her research has been used within government, by electricity regulators, and by international agencies and strategic philanthropies.

Kanika has also undertaken extensive research on the International Solar Alliance, work which has been used periodically by the Government of India and other countries. She has represented CEEW at various international forums, including the International Renewable Energy Agency, and the UNFCCC's Conference of the Parties. She serves as a member of the Bureau of the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) and represents CEEW on its Steering Committee. Her columns have been published in various newspapers. She is actively engaged in the Council's initiative, Women in Sustainability.

Prior to CEEW, she worked at the REN21 Secretariat in Paris, and was one of the authors of REN21's Global Status Reports on Renewable Energy. She has also worked on distributed renewable energy, urban energy policy, and energy and climate policies in developing countries. She also previously worked with GIZ on sustainability reporting standards for industry. Kanika holds an M.Sc in Economics and Development Economics from the University of Nottingham and an undergraduate honours degree in Economics from Miranda House, University of Delhi. She is fluent in English and Hindi and speaks basic French.