

Abhishek is an engineer by training, policy researcher by profession, and an art and nature lover at heart. As a Senior Programme Lead at The Council, he leads the Energy Access focus area, where, along with his team, he focuses on provision of modern forms of energy for all, especially the deprived. His research (and action) spans energy access for households, communities, and livelihoods. He co-conceptualised and leads CEEW's flagship research efforts on ACCESS – Access to Clean Cooking energy and Electricity – Survey of States, the largest survey of its kind on energy access. Over the years, Abhishek has focused on various issues including renewable energy, decentralised energy access, clean cooking energy, LPG for cooking, fossil fuel subsidies, electricity sector reforms, solar-powered irrigation, and circular economy. With more than seven years of experience, he is currently focusing on supporting innovations and entrepreneurship in clean energy for income generation, guiding national and state strategies on electricity access, designing a roadmap for clean cooking energy access in India, and supporting states on their solar pump programme design.

Nothing pleases Abhishek more than the 'joy of learning'. Most recently, he used the power of new-age data visualisations to create large-data driven decision support tools. He is also engaged in leveraging technology for data gathering and analysis in the public policy space.

Abhishek regularly speaks at various national and international forums, and his expert inputs are frequently sought by various government departments. He often writes in leading national dailies. He holds an MPhil in Sustainable Development from the University of Cambridge and a BTech in mechanical engineering from IIT Roorkee. Before moving into the public policy space, Abhishek used to audit engineering plants and design industry equipment, as an engineer at Nestlé.