15 CEEW
THE COUNCIL

Grounded Action, Global Impact

Review 2024

CEEW at a Glance

Our focus areas

Transformations

Low-carbon Economy
Energy Transitions
Power Markets
Industrial Sustainability
Sustainable Livelihoods

Quality of life

Clean Air
Sustainable Water
Sustainable Food Systems
Sustainable Cooling
Sustainable Mobility

Enablers

Sustainable Finance
Technology Futures
Circular Economy
Climate Resilience
International Cooperation

Our talisman

Fight Ignorance
Stay True
Raise the Bar

Our values

Integrated
International
Independent

Our special initiatives

CEEW Centre for Energy Finance
Powering Livelihoods

430+ Partners

CEEW's recognition and ranking as a think tank of repute owes much to the trust, collaboration and contribution of our partners from across sectors and geographies. Our deep gratitude and thanks to the organisations, institutions and individuals who have enabled and empowered us to stay true to our purpose.

Scan to see our valued partners

CEEW in Numbers

14+
Years of operations

460+
Peer reviewed publications.

500+
Research projects

350+
Multidisciplinary team members

11
Union ministries informed

20+
State governments engaged

600+
Seminars & conferences

10,000+
Media mentions

Strategic Outreach to Mainstream Sustainability

Over the past year, we engaged with a wide range of leaders and changemakers to weave in sustainability into national, state, and global narratives. Our efforts aimed to enable jobs, growth, and sustainability across economies and communities.

NITISH KUMAR
Chief Minister of Bihar, launched the CEEW co-authored draft report, *Climate Resilient and Low Carbon Development Pathway for Bihar*, at the Bihar Climate Action Summit, Patna, Bihar, 04 March 2024.

BHUPENDRA BHAI PATEL
Chief Minister of Gujarat, at the CEEW-Government of Gujarat (GoG) panel discussion, *Opportunities through Circular Economy: Recycling Wastewater & Waste to Energy*, organised by Urban Development and Urban Housing Department, GoG, at the Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2024, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, 12 January 2024.

EKNATH SHINDE
then Chief Minister of Maharashtra, at the launch of the CEEW-Thane Municipal Corporation report, *Heat Action Plan for Thane City 2024,* Thane, Maharashtra, 07 March 2024.

PREM KUMAR
Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Government of Bihar, launched the CEEW co-authored draft report, *Climate Resilient and Low Carbon Development Pathway for Bihar,* at the Bihar Climate Action Summit, Patna, Bihar, 04 March 2024.

Images: CEEW

UDHAYANIDHI STALIN
then Minister of Youth Welfare and Sports Developments, Government of Tamil Nadu, launched the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company (TNGCC)-CEEW report, *Tamil Nadu's Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Pathways for Net-Zero Transition*, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, 29 February 2024.

AMITABH KANT
India's G20 Sherpa, Government of India (GoI), at the launch of CEEW-Taj Group book, *Millet Mantra: The Culinary Centrepiece of India's G20 Presidency*, New Delhi, 11 January 2024.

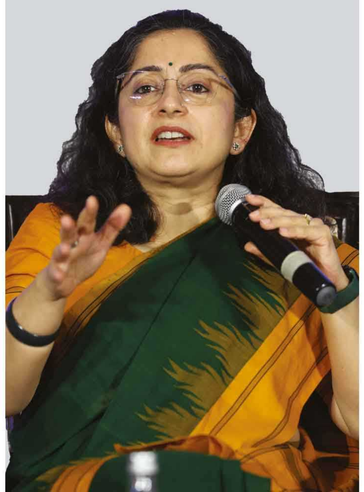
V. L. KANTHA RAO
Secretary, Ministry of Mines, GoI, at the CEEW-Ministry of Mines webinar, *Decoding the G20 Consensus on Critical Minerals for the Energy Transition,* New Delhi, 31 October 2023.

DEBASHREE MUKHERJEE
Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti, GoI, at the CEEW-CII-NNRE-ISA leaders' dialogue, *Actioning Solutions for Global Sustainable Development and Governance of Resources,* at COP28, Dubai, 07 December 2023.

LALIT BOHRA
Joint Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, GoI, at the CEEW-Bloomberg Philanthropies national dialogue, *Pathways for Rooftop Solar Revolution In India*, New Delhi, 16 November 2023.

DINESH D. JAGDALE
former Joint Secretary, MNRE, GoI, at the CEEW-MNRE national dialogue, *Solar Circular Economy*, New Delhi, 20 March 2024.

DR SHAMIKA RAVI
Member, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, GoI, at the CEEW-United Nations Foundation town hall, *Youth Sabha 2047: Shaping India's Future,* New Delhi, 13 August 2024.



Images: CEEW

DR SHILPAK AMBULE
High Commissioner of India to Singapore, with CEEW's **ARUNABHA GHOSH**, Singapore, 17 April 2024.

SUNJAY SUDHIR
Ambassador of India to the United Arab Emirates at the CEEW-CII-MNRE-ISA leaders' dialogue, *Actioning Solutions for Global Sustainable Development and Governance of Resources*, at COP28, Dubai, 07 December 2023.

ARABINDA KUMAR PADHEE
Principal Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment, Government of Odisha, at the CEEW-IWMI state-level consultation workshop, *Policy Coherence in the Food, Land, and Water Systems: Case Study of Odisha*, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, 14 December 2023.

VAIBHAV GALRIYA
Principal Secretary, Agriculture and Horticulture Department, Government of Rajasthan, at the CEEW-IWMI state-level stakeholder consultation workshop, *Policy Coherence in the Food, Land, and Water Systems: Case Study of Rajasthan*, Jaipur, Rajasthan, 21 August 2024.

SUJATA SAUNIK
then Additional Chief Secretary, Home and Administrative Reforms & Operation Management, General Administration Department, Government of Maharashtra at a CEEW-Thane District Management meeting, Mumbai, Maharashtra, 09 March 2024.

MANU SRIVASTAVA
Additional Chief Secretary,New and Renewable Energy Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh, at the CEEW-GoMP signing, Bhopal, 26 July 2024.

Images: CEEW

SUPRIYA SAHU
Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forest, Government of Tamil Nadu, launched the TNGCC-CEEW report, *Tamil Nadu's Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Pathways for Net-Zero Transition*, at the TN Climate Summit 2.0, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, 29 February 2024.

SHILPA SHINDE
Special Commissioner (EV Cell) at the CEEW-Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) Stakeholder Consultation Session, New Delhi, 19 January 2024.

LINDY CAMERON
British High Commissioner to India, at a CEEW-British High Commission meeting, New Delhi, 18 July 2024.

JUAN ANGULO
Ambassador of Chile to India, at the launch of CEEW-Taj Group book, *Millet Mantra: The Culinary Centrepiece of India's G20 Presidency,* New Delhi, 11 January 2024.

FREDDY SVANE
Ambassador of Denmark to India at the CEEW-Indo Nordic Water Forum (INWF) event, *SPRING Water Summit*, New Delhi, 12 March 2024.

KIMMO LAHDEVIRTA
Ambassador of Finland to India at the CEEW-INWF event, *SPRING Water Summit,* New Delhi, 12 March 2024.

Images: CEEW

OLIVER POIVRE D'ARVOR
Ambassador of France for Oceans and Poles-the Special Representative of the President of France for the United Nations Ocean Conference, at the launch of the CEEW report, *Rethinking Ocean Governance in an Era of Climate Urgency,* New Delhi, 21 February 2024.

MAY-ELIN STENER
Ambassador of Norway to India, at a CEEW-Embassy of Norway meeting, New Delhi, 27 October 2023.

VINCENZO DE LUCA
then Ambassador of Italy to India and Nepal, at the CEEW-Embassy of Italy youth conclave, *Cultivating Capacity and Unlocking Opportunities in Climate Policy,* New Delhi, 27 September 2023.

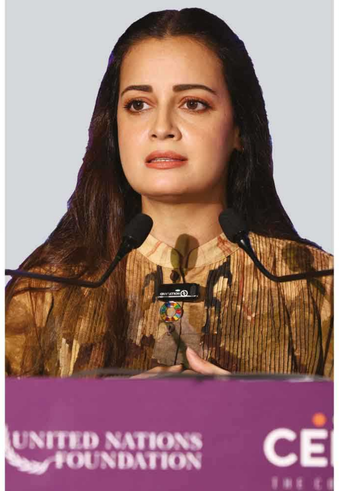
JAN THESLEFF
Ambassador of Sweden to India, at a CEEW-Embassy of Sweden meeting, New Delhi, 30 May 2024.

ACHIM STEINER
Administrator, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), with CEEW's **ARUNABHA GHOSH**, New York, 13 July 2024.

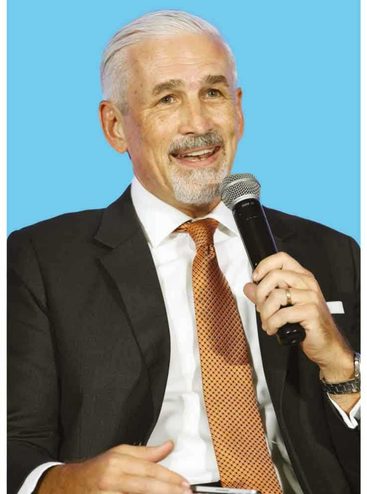
Images: CEEW

YALCHIN RAFIYEV
Deputy Foreign Minister of Azerbaijan and COP29 Lead Negotiator, at a CEEW-Embassy of Azerbaijan consultative meeting, New Delhi, 03 April 2024.

DIA MIRZA
UN Environment Goodwill Ambassador & United Nations Secretary-General Advocate for Sustainable Development Goals, at the CEEW-United Nations Foundation town hall, *Youth Sabha 2047: Shaping India's Future*, New Delhi, 12 August 2024.



SHOMBI SHARP
UN Resident Coordinator in India, at the CEEW-UNF national town hall, *Youth Sabha 2047: Shaping India's Future*, 12 August 2024.



Images: CEEW

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From the Chairperson and the CEO

JAMSHYD N. GODREJ
Chairperson, CEEW

ARUNABHA GHOSH
CEO, CEEW

In 2024, we asked ourselves a fundamental question: why should CEEW exist?

Recent developments show that the past is no longer a predictor of the future, and we must be prepared for major disruptions driven by geopolitics, technological shifts, and crossed planetary tipping points. In this era of uncertainty, one answer stands clear in our minds: we must exist because we belong and because the Global South, home to six billion people, must have its proportionate say in shaping the world's future.

This is why investing in institution-building in the Global South is critical. Too often, narratives about the Global South are dictated by others—defined in terms of what we lack rather than what we offer. We are striving to change that. CEEW can't do it alone — collaboration with other institutions and partners is key to getting our collective voices heard. At The Council, we recognise that sustainable development must be rooted in the realities of people's lives. We remain committed to solutions that emerge from the ground up—**solutions that are informed by data, shaped by experience, and designed for impact at scale.**

Take our work on resilience. The year 2024 was the hottest on record. In Thane, a coastal city of Maharashtra, we piloted a heat action plan that accounts for both heat and humidity, a flood action plan that maps risks ward by ward, and an air quality decision support system to help authorities take real-time action.

Or consider our work on the energy transition. From scaling the adoption of rooftop solar in Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh to sitting down with LPG distributors from Assam to Telangana to understand supply-side bottlenecks to clean cooking fuels, to estimating, for the first time, how much it will cost to decarbonise India's hard-to-abate sectors from steel to cement, the focus is on lowering resource footprint but increasing jobs and growth.

We are then taking India's story to the world for global impact — from Dubai to Davos, Phnom Penh to New York. We facilitated delegations from Singapore to support cooperation on carbon markets, helped Cambodia assess its capacity transparency reports for the UNFCCC, and took the Global South's message of accountability to COP28 in Dubai and Climate Week in New York.

We should exist, therefore, simply because we count. And to be counted, we must find our voice.

Accelerating Sustainable Development across India

Image: CEEW

Powering India's rooftop solar ambitions

CEEW conducted a detailed assessment of the technical, economic, and market potential of deploying rooftop solar (RTS) in Indian households by adopting a bottom-up approach. This study spanned 14,850 households in 21 Indian states, representing 97 per cent of the country's population. It was launched at the CEEW-Bloomberg Philanthropies national dialogue, *Pathways for Rooftop Solar Revolution In India*, in November 2023.

CEEW team visiting a solar rooftop-owning house during the survey, New Delhi, 26 November 2021.

Image: CEEW

"CEEW's report will help build a consensus among stakeholders to make rooftop solar central to India's energy transition."

LALIT BOHRA, Joint Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India, at the CEEW-Bloomberg Philanthropies national dialogue, *Pathways for Rooftop Solar Revolution In India*, New Delhi, 16 November 2023.

60%

of India's rooftop solar technical potential is concentrated in seven states.
Source: CEEW analysis

CEEW's **SHALU AGRAWAL**, at the National Workshop, *Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM)*, organised by MNRE, Bengaluru, 07 June 2024. *Images: CEEW*

CEEW Pride

CEEW signed an MoU with Madhya Pradesh's Department of New and Renewable Energy to accelerate clean energy deployment and integration. We signed another MoU with Uttarakhand's Department of Energy and Uttarakhand Renewable Energy Development Agency (UREDA) to develop their *State Solar Policy 2023*, which was approved in March 2024. **CEEW now supports both states in creating guidelines, drafting schemes, and assisting power entities with crucial reforms for effective policy implementation.**

Making clean cooking fuel accessible in India

CEEW conducted a survey of over 900 liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) distributors across six states—Assam, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand—to understand the challenges and opportunities in the cooking gas supply ecosystem.

CEEW team meeting LPG distributors in Assam and Uttarakhand as part of the survey, May 2024. *Images: CEEW*

CEEW team at a focus group discussion on bovine rearing and milk consumption patterns among different sections of society, Letra Village, Datia district, Madhya Pradesh, 15 June 2024. *Image: CEEW*

Strengthening the Indian dairy sector

CEEW conducted a first-of-its-kind large-scale survey of bovine rearers in India. The survey was conducted as data on bovine rearers' contexts, motivations, constraints, and awareness is largely absent from the public domain. We covered nearly 7,500 households across 817 villages, 389 districts, and 15 states. It represented all agro-climatic zones, 91 per cent of the bovine population, 87 per cent of total milk production, and 96 per cent of the rural bovine population. Analysis is underway to harvest insights to guide evidence-based, context-specific interventions by the government, private sector, and civil society to enhance the sector's value and long-term resilience.

This effort is part of our endeavour to catalyse the transformation of India's agricultural and food systems. It is driven by the "30-30-30 by 2030" agenda — a 30 per cent shift in food production to sustainable approaches, a 30 per cent shift towards sustainable and healthy consumption choices, and a 30 per cent shift in value addition to sustainable supply chains.

Centring youth in India's 2047 vision

CEEW, with the United Nations Foundation (UNF), conducted a national town hall, *Youth Sabha 2047: Shaping India's Future*, in August 2024, as part of the global intergenerational townhall series, ***National Town Halls, under the Road to 2100 programme***.

It brought together stakeholders from government agencies, the United Nations (UN), and civil society organisations to discuss the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, India's 2047 vision, and revitalise international cooperation with the United Nations Summit of the Future.

RAKESH SHARMA, former astronaut and the first Indian in space, at the event, 12 August 2024.

DIA MIRZA,UN Secretary-General's Advocate for the SDGs, at the event, 12 August 2024.

The Next Generation India Fellows with the keynote speakers and officials at the town hall, 12 August 2024, New Delhi.

Images: CEEW

Decoding net-zero pathways for hard-to-abate industries

CEEW undertook a first-of-its-kind assessment to estimate the cost of decarbonising India's hard-to-abate industries in four sectors: cement, steel, aluminium, and fertiliser. Two of these studies were launched at a national workshop conducted in collaboration with bp in October 2014. The workshop brought together key industry, academia, and policy stakeholders to strategise the net-zero journey for the steel and cement industries.

CEEW's **DEEPAK YADAV** (L) ,**SABARISH ELANGO** (R), and, **HEMANT MALLYA** (bottom) at the workshop, New Delhi, 12 October 2023. *Images: CEEW*

USD 627 billion

needed to decarbonise India's steel and cement industries.

Source: CEEW analysis

32%

reduction in cement emissions is possible without any price increase by adopting efficient technologies such as waste-heat recovery and energy-efficient drives and controls.

Source: CEEW analysis

CEEW, Climate Finance Leadership Initiative India (CFLI India), and Bloomberg Philanthropies organised a national dialogue on *Financing Green Hydrogen in India in* June 2024. We convened policymakers, investors, and financial institutions to discuss the challenges, solutions, and policies needed to scale green hydrogen production in the country.

CEEW's **KARTHIK GANESAN** (L), and **DHRUBA PURKAYASTHA** (R), at the national dialogue, New Delhi, 18 June 2024. *Images: CEEW with CFLI India*

CEEW Pride

CEEW was appointed as a knowledge partner to the Ministry of Steel for seven task forces. We supported the Ministry in developing a taxonomy and generating demand for green steel, renewable energy, green hydrogen, carbon capture utilisation for storage, and the process transition from coal-based DRI to gas-based DRI.

As a knowledge partner to the MNRE, CEEW conducted ecosystem-level gap analysis on hydrogen safety standards and testing infrastructure in India. We are also on the advisory group of the Ministry's *National Green Hydrogen Mission* (NGHM).

Enabling circularity across sectors

CEEW developed a novel coefficient-based solar waste estimation model to enable effective solar waste management practices. We presented these findings at the national dialogue, *Solar Circular Economy,* organised in collaboration with the MNRE, the National Solar Energy Federation of India (NSEFI), and Bloomberg Philanthropies, in March 2024.

"The CEEW report is the beginning of our dive deep into circular processes to generate viable and resourceful resources."

DINESH D. JAGDALE, former Joint Secretary, MNRE, GoI, at the national dialogue, New Delhi, 20 March 2024.

CEEW's **AKANKSHA TYAGI** (L) and **AJINKYA KALE** (R) at the national dialogue, New Delhi, 20 March 2024. *Images: CEEW*

32x

estimated increase in India's cumulative solar waste between 2030 and 2050.
Source: CEEW analysis

CEEW developed a first-of-its-kind municipal index for evaluating the performance of Indian urban local bodies (ULBs) in used water management. Along with the Indo-Nordic Water Forum (INWF), we organised a national-level event, *SPRING Water Summit*, in March 2024, convening multiple stakeholders to discuss scaling up used-water management.

CEEW's **SAIBA GUPTA** at the *SPRING Water Summit*, New Delhi, 12 March 2024. *Image: CEEW*

96,000

million litres per day

of used treated water (UTW) will be available in India for reuse by 2050.
Source: CEEW analysis

Improving air quality management

CEEW, UrbanEmissions.Info, and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Goa organised a national workshop, *Improving Air Quality Management through Modelling and Forecasting*, in March 2024. The 3-day workshop was attended by officials from the Central Pollution Control Board, the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and adjoining areas (CAQM), five state pollution control boards, and students and researchers from leading academic institutions.

CEEW's **ABHISHEK KAR** addressed the participants and stakeholders at the national workshop, Goa, 15 March 2024.

CEEW's **MOHAMMAD RAFIUDDIN** (L) conducted the air quality workshop with students, Goa, 15 March 2024. *Images: CEEW*

(L to R) **PARIJAT GHOSH**, Team Coordinator, Research and Advocacy at Professional Assistance For Development Action (PRADAN), **ALOK SIKKA**, Country Representative, IWMI India, **YUGAL JOSHI**, Adviser, Water & Land Resources, Communication and Drinking Water & Sanitation, NITI Aayog, **LAXMI JOSHI**, Fellow, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), with CEEW's **NITIN BASSI**, at the launch national report, New Delhi, 23 January 2024. *Image: CEEW*

Revitalising the policy landscape in food, land, and water

CEEW co-developed with the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) a policy coherence framework to analyse seven select national policies covering food, land, and water (FLW) systems that had a combined average annual expenditure of INR 39,550 crore during the last three years.

The critical interlinkages among the food, land, and water systems are complex and context-specific. There has been limited research on how policies governing one resource have deep implications for the other linked resources. To ensure the effectiveness of national policies and strategies, the framework recommends gathering context-specific evidence on the coherence between policies governing India's critical FLW systems and addressing points of incoherence.

Unlocking investments for climate action

CEEW, in collaboration with UNDP India, hosted a financiers' roundtable, *Catalysing Access to Affordable Finance for DRE-Powered Livelihoods*, in May 2024 to explore investment opportunities in decentralised renewable energy technologies for livelihoods.

CEEW team with roundtable participants at the CEEW office, New Delhi, 02 May 2024.

In 2024, CEEW developed ENSURE (Effective Nature-based Solutions Utilisation and Resource Evaluation), a framework designed to attract investments. It enables stakeholders to scale up nature-based solution (NbS) interventions and maximize their impacts in mitigating climate change and enhancing resilience in vulnerable regions.

CEEW's **ABHISHEK JAIN** at the roundtable, New Delhi, 02 May 2024.
Images: CEEW

(L to R) **z** Senior Programme Lead, CEEW; **RISHIKA DAS ROY**, Lead- Sectoral Strategy and Investments, India Climate Collaborative; **APARNA DUA**, Director, The Blended Finance Company; **DR MANU GUPTA,** Co-Founder, SEEDS India; **DR NAVIN HORO**, Country Project Lead, GIZ India; **VIVEK SEN**, India Director, Climate Policy Initiative; **SHREYA WADHAWAN**, Programme Associate, CEEW: and **ARYAN BAJPAI**, Research Analyst, CEEW at report launch organised by the India Forum for NbS, New Delhi, 06 August 2024. *Images: CEEW*

CEEW Pride

CEEW's **VAIBHAV CHATURVEDI** and **GAGAN SIDHU** were appointed to the NITI AAYOG-led Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Macroeconomics and the Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Climate Finance, April 2024.

Driving Change Across Indian States

Image: CEEW

Shaping Bihar's decarbonisation pathways

CEEW, as a member of a UNEP-led consortium, contributed to the development of Bihar's long-term climate resilience and decarbonisation strategy.

We conducted the emission inventory and sector-level carbon footprint analysis and led the mitigation strategies through scenario modelling for net-zero targets. **The draft report, *Climate Resilient and Low-Carbon Development Pathway for Bihar,* was launched by Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister of Bihar, at the Bihar Climate Action Summit, Patna, March 2024.**

CEEW's **VAIBHAV CHATURVEDI** moderated the panel discussion, *Pathways to Low Carbon Development: Innovations and Transitions*, at the Bihar Climate Conclave, Patna, 04 March 2024. *Images: CEEW*

DR PREM KUMAR (front row centre), Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Government of Bihar, with the **CEEW team** and other consortium members at the launch of the draft report, Patna, 04 March 2024.

Powering Livelihoods, the CEEW and Villgro Innovations Foundation's initiative, launched a 'Decentralised Renewable Energy (DRE) Experience Centre' in Bihar's Gaya district in partnership with JEEVIKA, Rural Development Department, Government of Bihar, and Jeevika Women Initiative Renewable Energy and Solution Private Limited (J-WiRES). This center showcases DRE technologies, such as solar dryers and refrigerators. It allows potential users, especially women, to experience these technologies and their potential to foster resilient, sustainable livelihoods.

CEEW's **WASE KHALID** (R) with **DR VINITA S SAHAY**, Director, IIM Bodhgaya (C), at the inauguration of the DRE experience centre, Patna, Bihar, 23 September 2023. *Images: CEEW*

Potential DRE technology users testing different equipment at the experience centre, Patna, 23 September 2023.

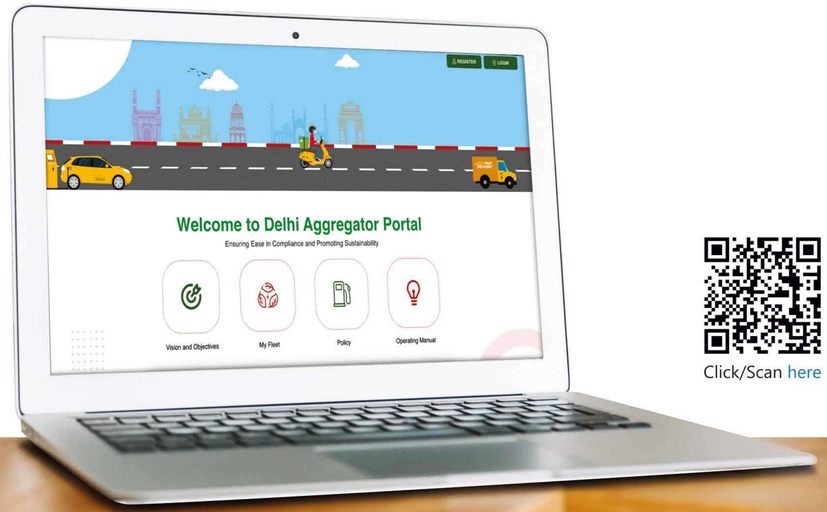
Accelerating sustainable mobility in Delhi, Kerala, and Uttar Pradesh

CEEW, as a knowledge partner to the Directorate of Urban Transport (DUT), Government of Uttar Pradesh (GoUP), conducted an assessment of current and potential bus-user perceptions in Lucknow city, prepared an audit framework for bus stops, and estimated the requirement for 12,000 buses by 2031 across 26 major cities of Uttar Pradesh.

"CEEW with DUT is providing the roadmap for future city bus transport across Uttar Pradesh."

RAJENDRA PENSIYA, then Director, DUT, GoUP, at the DUT-CEEW event, *Meri Bus Meri Sadak - Driving Sustainable Urban Mobility in Uttar Pradesh,* Lucknow, 19 June 2024. *Image: CEEW*

CEEW, as a knowledge partner to the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD), developed a dashboard to facilitate, monitor, and document the progress of the *Delhi Motor Vehicle Aggregator and Delivery Service Provider Scheme 2023.*



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#CEEW Pride

CEEW's **DISHA AGARWAL** was invited by the Department of Power, Government of Kerala, to be a member of the Energy Conservation sub-committee set up to review the *Kerala Power Policy 2019* and provide inputs for developing a renewed policy, January 2024.

CEEW conducted a study on the role of e-cycles in lessening emissions while boosting mobility with anganwadi and Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) workers and women associated with self-help groups (SHGs) in the Manikkal gram panchayat in Kerala. The study was launched at an event organised with Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), Convergence Energy Services Limited, and Energy Management Centre Kerala (EMC Kerala) at the International Energy Festival of Kerala (IEFK), in February 2024.

ASHA and **anganwadi** workers and SHG members trying e-cycles during a demonstration exercise conducted by CEEW in Manikkal gram Panchayat, Kerala, 04 July 2023. *Images: CEEW*

Designing solutions for a responsible energy transition in Karnataka

CEEW, in partnership with Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited (KREDL), is developing a guidebook for project developers to support responsible deployment of renewable energy projects. In July 2024, we presented an evidence-based framework to the Energy Department, Government of Karnataka drawing from fieldwork across 15+ villages in Karnataka.

CEEW team at focus group discussions in Turuvanur village, Chitradurga district, Karnataka, in January 2024. *Images: CEEW*

Supporting Maharashtra's climate resilience plans

CEEW collaborated with the Thane Municipal Corporation (TMC) to jointly develop and deliver a heat action plan, an urban flood management plan and an air quality decision support system – helping build the coastal city's all-round climate resilience.

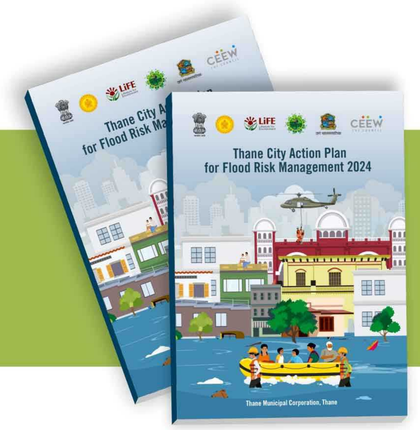
(L to R) **VISHWAS CHITALE**, Senior Programme Lead, CEEW; **ABHIJIT BANGAR**, IAS, Municipal Commissioner, Thane; **SHAMBHURAJ DESAI**, Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA), Maharashtra; **SADABHAU KHOT**, MLA, Maharashtra; **EKNATH SHAMBHAJI SHINDE**, then Chief Minister of Maharashtra; **PRATAP SARNAIK**, MLA, Maharashtra; **MANGAL PRABHAT LODHA**, MLA, Maharashtra, at the launch of the report, *Heat Action Plan for Thane City 2024*, Thane, 07 March, 2024. *Images: CEEW*

CEEW team with TMC officials at the launch of the study *Thane City Action Plan for Flood Risk Management 2024*, Thane, 22 June 2024.

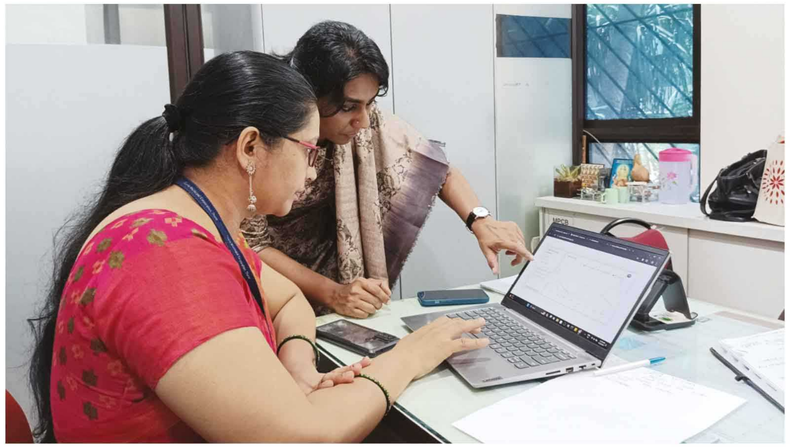
57%

of Indian districts are vulnerable to extreme flooding events and their compounding effects

Source: CEEW analysis



CEEW assisted TMC's Pollution Control Department in enhancing Thane's readiness for high air pollution events through an Air Quality Decision Support System (AQ DSS). The DSS will help the department plan real-time mitigation measures and design policies to reduce city-wide air pollution.



CEEW's **SNEHA MARIA IGNATIOUS**, with **NIRMITEE NARENDRA SALGAONKAR**, Junior Chemist, TMC, at an AQDSS training programme, Thane, 23 April 2024. *Image: CEEW*

CEEW Pride

CEEW was invited to join the Heatwave Task Force Committee of Thane City in February 2024. Chaired by the Additional Commissioner of Thane Municipal Corporation, the Committee monitors the implementation of the *Thane City Heat Action Plan*.

Enabling clean air practices in Punjab

CEEW, in collaboration with Amritsar Smart City Limited (ASCL), launched a pilot programme to transition the city's existing diesel auto rickshaw fleet to electric. Over three months, 300+ diesel auto drivers were given e-autos to experience using them first-hand. Through our continued engagements with ASCL, we proposed a more inclusive electric auto transition in Amritsar. This led to extended support for 90 per cent subsidies to 200 women drivers. **By August 2024, nearly 80 women auto drivers in Amritsar had received their new electric vehicles. This transition will increase incomes, mitigate air pollution, and help the city go green.**

SARABJIT SINGH, Amritsar's first woman pink-auto driver, at an e-auto training programme. She also leads the CEEW-supported self-help group, Amritsar, February 2024. *Image: CEEW*

CEEW conducted a pioneering state-level study with approximately 1,500 farmers from 11 districts. We assessed the field-level challenges of adopting alternatives to crop residue burning and recommended corrective measures to help Punjab become a zero-burn state.

CEEW's **KURINJI KEMANTH** at the state-level convening on crop residue management, Chandigarh, Punjab, 02 July 2024. *Image: CEEW*

CEEW, in collaboration with the municipal corporations of Ludhiana and Amritsar, launched a one-of-a-kind Zero Waste Schools Programme with 20 schools (10 each in Ludhiana and Amritsar) to augment the capacity and awareness of children on conducting waste audits of their schools and finding appropriate solutions to ensure proper handling and management of waste.

CEEW's **Srishti Mishra** conducting a waste audit demonstration with Sri Guru Harkrishan International School students, Amritsar, 07 August 2024.

Images: CEEW

CEEW's **Ramandeep Singh** interacting with a farmer on crop residue management practices, outskirts of Ludhiana, Punjab, 11 November 2022.

As a knowledge partner for the Municipal Corporation of Amritsar (MCA), CEEW is helping to devise strategies for reducing air pollution from construction activities. These strategies are backed by evidence from a first-of-its-kind clean construction pilot site in Gurugram, and through efforts to build the capacity of construction workers to manage construction and demolition (C&D) dust and waste.

CEEW's **PRIYANKA SINGH** at the state-level C&D convening, Amritsar, Punjab, 01 December 2023. *Images: CEEW*

#CEEW Pride

CEEW's Clean Air, Sustainable Water and Energy Transition team members delivered a full-credit elective course on Environmental Management for second-year PGDFM students at the Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM) Bhopal, across three months, beginning July 2024.

Supporting Rajasthan's water and energy reforms

CEEW conducted on-ground assessments across eight districts in Rajasthan to evaluate the implementation of *Atal Bhujal Yojana* (ABY), India's participatory groundwater management programme. Our insights led to actionable recommendations to strengthen governance, enhance community participation, and improve water security.

CEEW team members engaging with the community in Jaipur and Ajmer districts of Rajasthan, August 2023. *Images: CEEW*

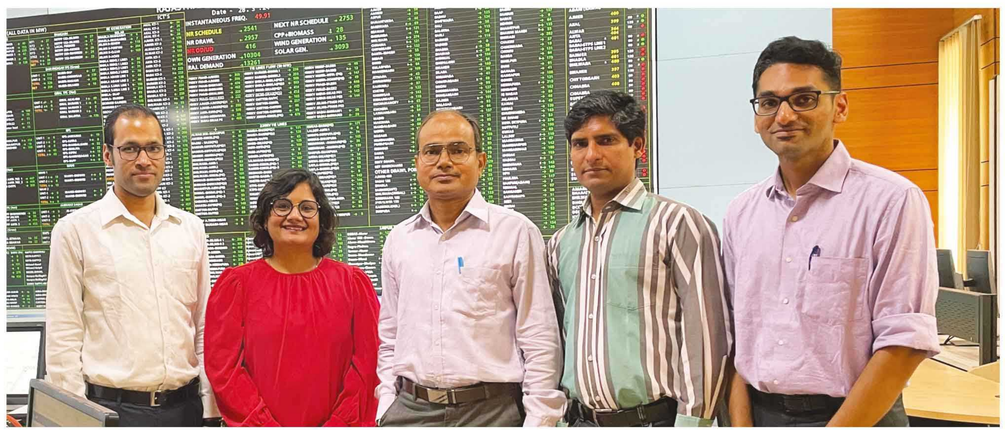
100%

of the village water and sanitation committees (VWSCs) surveyed in Rajasthan were aware of the objectives of the *Atal Bhujal Yojana* scheme

Source: CEEW analysis

CEEW and International Water Management Institute (IWMI) organised a state-level stakeholders workshop, *Policy Coherence in the Food, Land, and Water Systems: Case Study of Rajasthan*, in August 2024. The objective was to reflect on advancing coherence in food, land, and water systems and finding solutions to related complex challenges.

CEEW's **CHANDAN JHA** (L) and **SUPARANA KATYAINI** (R) at the CEEW-IWMI Rajasthan Consultation, 21 August 2024.



(L to R) CEEW's **PRATEEK AGGARWAL**, **DISHA AGARWAL**, and **DHRUVAK AGGARWAL** at a meeting with Rajasthan State Load Despatch Centre officials discussing operational challenges in integrating wind and solar energy into the power grid, Jaipur, 28 March 2024. *Images: CEEW*

(L to R) **RAHUL NADH**, IAS, Mission Director, TN Climate Change Mission; **OLIVER BALLHATCHET**, British Deputy High Commissioner - Tamil Nadu & Puducherry; **THIRU. SIVA. V. MEYYANATHAN**, Hon'ble Minister for Environment & Climate Change; **THIRU. UDHAYANIDHI STALIN**, Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development; **ARUNABHA GHOSH**, Founder and CEO, CEEW; **THIRU. R. S. RAJAKANNAPPAN**, Minister for Backward Classes Welfare; **SUPRIYA SAHU**, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forest, at the summit, Tamil Nadu, 29 February 2024. *Image: CEEW*

Shaping Tamil Nadu's long-term sustainability pathways

CEEW, as the technical partner to the Government of Tamil Nadu and the Tamil Nadu Green Climate Company, led the development of Tamil Nadu's Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Pathways for Net-Zero Transition. Launched at the Tamil Nadu Climate Summit 2.0, the study provides a data-driven roadmap to cut emissions and accelerate the state's journey to net zero.

CEEW Pride

CEEW has signed an MoU with Guidance Tamil Nadu (GTN) to develop policies for transitioning the state's industry to clean energy sources, including hydrogen, renewables, storage, and future clean technologies, in November 2023.

CEEW has also signed MoUs with Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd. Department of Energy and Petrochemicals, Government of Gujarat and Centre for Public Policy and Good Governance (CPPGG), Department of Planning, Government of Uttarakhand to support the respective states in their transition towards a net-zero emissions economy.

Enabling Jobs, Growth & Sustainability Globally

Image: CEEW

Building health and nutrition security with millets

In the International Year of Millets, CEEW showcased millets as a nutritious, climate-resilient superfood through *Millet Mantra*, a coffee-table book with The Taj Hotels. Featuring stories from Odisha's farms to global kitchens, it highlighted millets as the culinary centerpiece of India's G20 Presidency.

AMITABH KANT, India's G20 Sherpa, Government of India, at the launch event, New Delhi, 11 January 2024.

India, a global champion of millets, is taking this superfood to the kitchens of the world. CEEW has showcased the effort through this meticulously researched G20 collectable book."

The coffee-table book champions micro entrepreneurs such as the Krishna SHG who run their Millet Shakti Cafe on the premises of the district government's administrative offices in Keonjhar, Odisha. *Image: CEEW*

ANAHITA DHONDY, well-known chef and author, at the event.

Images: CEEW

Image: CEEW

Telling the Global South story @COP28

CEEW amplified the voice and priorities of the Global South at the pivotal climate negotiations, as an accredited observer at the 28th session of the Conference of Parties (COP28) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Dubai.

~50
instances of CEEW experts contributing to COP28 briefings and roundtable discussions

6
studies published for COP28

CEEW, in partnership with the CCII, MNRE and ISA, hosted a leaders' dialogue, *Actioning Solutions for Global Sustainable Development and Governance of Resources*, at COP28. The experts discussed critical priorities such as managing global water resources, mobilising private sector action, accelerating renewable energy deployment, and lowering the cost of green financing.

Images: CEEW

DR NAOKO ISHII, Executive Vice President and Director, Center for Global Commons, University of Tokyo and Commissioner, Global Commission on the Economics of Water addressing the panel at the CEEW-CII-MNRE-ISA leaders' dialogue, Dubai, 07 December 2023.

CEEW's **SHUVA RAHA** (R) moderated the session, *Tripling Global Renewable Energy: Production and Offtake*, at the CEEW-CII-MNRE-ISA leaders' dialogue, Dubai, 07 December 2023.

CEEW's **PALLAVI DAS** at the CEEW-New Climate Institute dialogue, *How Can the Long-term Strategies of the G20 Members Help Forge Partnerships & Decarbonise?* Delhi, 24 August 2023.

CEEW's **VAIBHAV CHATURVEDI** at the session, *Free Market Climate Policy: Innovation & Investment Acceleration via Reduced Tax & Trade Barriers,* organised by Grace Richardson Fund and CUTS International, Dubai, 09 December 2023.

CEEW's **RISHABH JAIN** (L) at the session, *Target Net-zero: India's Efforts to Secure RE Supply Chains*, at the CEEW-CII-MNRE-ISA leaders' dialogue, Dubai, 07 December 2023. *Images: CEEW*

CEEW's **VISHWAS CHITALE** (L) moderated the CEEW-ICIMOD side event, *Building the Resilience of Clean Energy Sector Towards Imminent Physical Climate Risks*, Dubai, 10 December 2023.

CEEW's **NITIN BASSI** at the India Pavillion side event, *Participatory Groundwater Management*, organised by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Dubai, 09 December 2023.

Images: CEEW

CEEW Pride

CEEW's **VAIBHAV CHATURVEDI** was appointed as an Expert Group member to advise the *Task Force on the Net-Zero Policy,* that was announced during COP28, April 2024.

CEEW's **SHUVA RAHA** was appointed co-chair of *T20 Brasil Task Force 2 Subtopic 2: Sustainable Climate Action and Inclusive Just Energy Transitions - Accelerating Transition to a Low-carbon Economy and Sustainable Consumption/Production*, January 2024.

Making the global energy transition inclusive

CEEW collaborated with governments, industry, media, and the financial sector to unlock a more sustainable and equitable energy transition in India and globally.

CEEW's **RISHABH JAIN** at the session, *Risk Monitoring: Criticality Assessments,* at the 6th EU Critical Raw Materials Event, organised by the European Commission, Brussels, 14 November 2023.

CEEW's **ARUNABHA GHOSH** moderated the session, *Tripling Renewables: Make It Rapid and Responsible,* held at the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting 2024, Davos, 17 January 2024.

CEEW's **BHAWNA TYAGI** (L) at the session, *Fast-tracking Bangladesh's Renewable Energy Growth: Prospects and Problems*, at the Bangladesh International Trade Summit Conference, organised by BigMint, Dhaka, 14 May 2024.

CEEW's **ARJUN DUTT** at the event, *Green Investment in India: Opportunities for Japanese Companies*, co-organised by Keidanren and GR Japan, Tokyo, 07 November 2023.

Images: CEEW

Supporting climate-reporting capacities of countires

CEEW, in collaboration with the UN Climate Change Secretariat has developed a capacity-building tool for an enhanced transparency framework.

The tool was first piloted in Cambodia in July 2024. It provided insights into capacity constraints and critical needs for developing long-term institutional arrangements for climate reporting in Cambodia.

A key focus was the importance of transparency—not only as an obligation but also as a tool to assess the effectiveness of domestic efforts, inform national policy, and facilitate cross-country learning from both challenges and solutions.

SUM THY, Director General, General Directorate of Policy and Strategy, Ministry of Environment, Cambodia and other government officials, with **CEEW team**, at the CEEW-Ministry of Environment, Cambodia workshop on the capacity-building tool, Phnom Penh, 10 July 2024. *Image: CEEW*

Building Careers in Public Policy

Image: CEEW

UN Foundation-CEEW Next Generation India Fellowship

The United Nations Foundation and CEEW launched the Next Generation India Fellowship in September 2023, on the sidelines of India's G20 presidency. The two-year programme is designed to empower promising young Indian leaders to shape the country's and the world's future. The 11 fellows work across a range domains such as public health, sustainable cities, new technologies, culture and communities, gender equality, future of the workforce, affordable and clean energy, and oceans.

The Fellows receive intergenerational guidance and support from a group of Next Generation India Advisors. The Advisors include Shri Amitabh Kant, India's G20 Sherpa, Government of India, Ambassador André Corrêa do Lago, Secretary for Climate, Energy and Environment at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Brazil, Ambassador Ruchi Ghanashyam, Indian Diplomat and Former Indian Foreign Service Officer, Ms Aditi Arora, Country-Director, India for Girl Up, a global initiative by the United Nations Foundation, and Ms Purva Misra, Chief People Officer of NDTV.

Sagarmāthā Leadership Seminars

CEEW's Sagarmāthā Leadership Seminars brought together inspirational leaders to share their professional and personal journeys with the team. We hosted senior policymakers, CEOs, and founders, such as **WANJIRA MATHAI**, Managing Director for Africa and Global Partnerships at World Resources Institute (WRI), and **AWAIS AHMED**, founder of Pixxel, an Indian space data company.

Images: CEEW

Staying the course

As part of CEEW's 14th anniversary celebrations, we felicitated 37 team members who had completed 3, 5, 7, and 10 years at The Council. We also planted an equivalent number of trees in their name in collaboration with Grow-Trees.

#CEEW Pride

In May 2024, we celebrated the remarkable achievements of several CEEW colleagues, who earned admission to prestigious institutions such as Harvard Kennedy School, Yale University, and Columbia University.

Images: CEEW

How CEEW fared in its gender KPIs

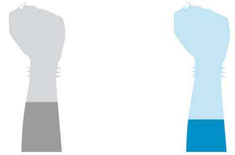
July 2023 July 2024

58:44 **52:48**

proportion of men to women in the organisation

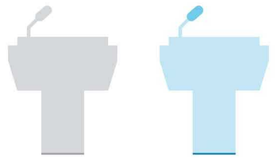
38% **39%**

of total salary disbursed to women



30% **25%**

of leadership roles held by women



1 **1**

women on the CEEW governing board

34% **34%**

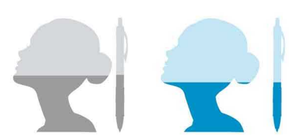
research publications with women as lead authors

35% **34%**

women speakers at CEEW panel discussions

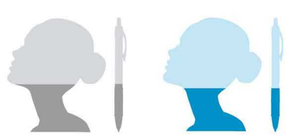
18% **12%**

instances of women researchers quoted in the press



50% **41%**

opinion editorials published with women as first authors*



32% **30%**

opinion editorials published with women as second authors*

*Excludes opinion editorials written by the CEO.

Source: CEEW analysis as of July 2024.

Informing public opinion

86 opinion articles

published in leading international, national and regional media outlets such as *Nature, Nikkei Asia, The Indian Express, Mint, Dainik Jagran, Dainik Bhaskar, The Hindustan Times, The Hindu, Amar Ujala, ThePrint, The Financial Express, The Telegraph, NDTV,* and *Rajasthan Patrika.*

~1,200 media mentions

of CEEW's work in leading international and national media outlets such as *Bloomberg, The Guardian, Associated Press, The New York Times, Climate Home News, South China Morning Post, The Straits Times, The National, Al Jazeera, Financial Post, The Indian Express, The Hindustan Times, The Times of India, The Hindu, Mint, The Economic Times, Dainik Bhaskar,* and *Dainik Jagran.*

~56 media appearances

of CEEW researchers in news channels such as *CNN International, BBC UK, CNA, France2, DW, NDTV, CNBC TV18, ET Now, NewsX, India Today, Sansad TV, WION, DD India,* and *DD News.*

Image: CEEW

Opinion articles

nature

Monsoons are changing in India — here's how to climate-proof the economy

SHRAVAN PRABHU, May 2024

FINANCIAL EXPRESS
Read to Lead

Turbocharging green industrial growth

HEMANT MALLYA, July 2024

The Indian EXPRESS

Changing how we move

KARTHIK GANESAN, September 2023

Hindustan Times

World is shifting – India will need a green vision

ARUNABHA GHOSH, August 2024

दैनिक जागरण

India's green growth needs to be climate-resilient

KAVITA VIJ and **DHRUBA PURKAYASTHA**
August 2024

THE HINDU

Powering India's Future

SHALU AGRAWAL and **DISHA AGARWAL**, August 2024

दैनिक भास्कर

We have to think beyond traditional models of solar energy

BHAWNA TYAGI and **NEERAJ KULDEEP**
January 2024

THE HINDU

The shape of a five-year climate agenda for India

VAIBHAV CHATURVEDI, July 2024

ThePrint

Can municipalities reuse wastewater in this heat? Surat & Bengaluru show how to do it best

SAIBA GUPTA and **NITIN BASSI**, June 2024

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Numbers are Breathtaking

MD. RAFIUDDIN, November 2024

Media mentions

दैनिक जागरण

जीवन होगा आसान, वायु प्रदूषण पर भी लगेगी लगाम

संजीव बाघा ● नई दिल्ली

सर्दी के मौसम के दौरान घर या दफ्तर से बाहर शरीर को गर्मी देने के लिए अब अलाव जलाने की जरूरत नहीं होगी। बैटरी से गर्म होने वाले परिधान प्रदूषण रहित विकल्प हो सकते हैं। जी हां, विनाहीट नाम से तैयार यह परिधान रात में काम करने वाले सुरक्षाकर्मियों और अन्य कर्मियों को सर्दी से बचाने का स्वच्छ विकल्प देता है। बैटरी का स्विच आन करना होगा और परिधान गर्म हो जाएंगे।

दरअसल, 'स्वच्छ हवा, बेहतर स्वास्थ्य' विषयक संवाद के दौरान ब्लूस्मार्टबार को होटल हयात रिजेंसी में 'हवा के साथी' शीर्षक से प्रदर्शनी भी लगाई गई। इसमें वायु प्रदूषण पर नियंत्रण पाने के लिए नौ विकल्प दर्शाए गए। अनेक विकल्प स्कूली बच्चों की रचनात्मकता से ये विकल्प सामने आए हैं। प्रदर्शनी

इनवायरोशील्ड माडल का प्रदर्शन करते दिल्ली के शांतिनगर स्थित लीलावती विद्या मंदिर स्कूल के छात्र ● जागरण

'स्वच्छ हवा, बेहतर स्वास्थ्य' विषयक संवाद के दौरान 'हवा के साथी प्रदर्शनी में स्कूली बच्चों की तरफ से दर्शाए गए नौ विकल्प

यूएसएड के तहत सीईईडब्ल्यू ने थिंक स्टार्टअप्स के साथ मिलकर संचालित किया था। कार्यक्रम के

नेचुरल गैस फर्नेस : हस्तशिल्पियों के लिए नेचुरल गैस से चलने वाली भट्ठी बहुत उपयोगी है। अभी कारीगरों के साथ इसका परीक्षण जारी है। इससे कोयले की तुलना में धातुओं को पिघलाने का खर्च 40 प्रतिशत तक घटाने में सफलता मिली है।

ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन कुकिंग स्टोव : यह उन सूदूर इलाकों में लकड़ी से खाना पकाने से होने वाले प्रदूषण को रोकता है और ऊर्जा सुरक्षा देता है, जहां ईंधन की आपूर्ति चुनौती भरी है। इसमें सिर्फ पानी की खपत होती है।

मिनी इलेक्ट्रिक ट्रैक्टर : यह छोटे किसानों, सब्जी एवं बागवानी की जरूरतों को ध्यान में रखकर बनाया गया है। इसका लक्ष्य पारंपरिक खेती में बदलाव लाना और कृषि कुशलता को बढ़ाना है।

इनवायरोशील्ड : यह छोटे कारखानों में हवा की गुणवत्ता को

से निकलने वाले धुंए से पर्टिकुलेट मैटर को अलग करने के लिए रासायनिक स्क्रबर तकनीक का उपयोग किया गया है। इसका दिल्ली के लीलावती स्कूल ने नियंत्रित स्थितियों में अध्ययन किया है।

नेचुरल एयर फिल्टर : यह स्थानीय स्तर पर उपलब्ध प्राकृतिक सामग्रियों से बने फिल्टर हैं। इन्हें व्यावसायिक और आवासीय स्थानों पर हवा को साफ करने में महंगे एचईपीए फिल्टर्स की जगह पर इस्तेमाल किया जा सकता है। केरल के कोल्लम स्थित ऐस्वर्य पब्लिक स्कूल ने कपास, ऊनी फैब्रिक और वैटिवर जैसी कई प्राकृतिक सामग्रियों के साथ हवा को साफ करने में इसकी क्षमता का परीक्षण किया है।

वेस्ट आडिट : यह कचरा प्रबंधन के मानकीकृत प्रोटोकाल को सुनिश्चित करने वाली एक किट है। इसके तहत उत्तर प्रदेश के मऊ स्थित सनबीम स्कूल मापन प्रोटोकाल, नमूना लेने, कचरा एकत्र करने के रंगीन बैग, कंपोस्टिंग

Life will be easy, air pollution will also be curbed

CEEW RESEARCH quoted in Dainik Jagran, September 2023

The Guardian

'A matter of survival': India's unstoppable need for air conditioners

Access to sufficient cooling could further drive up the already rampant inequality in the country

Mohammad Adil Khan inspects ACs at his rental shop in Delhi. Photograph: Aakash Hassan/The Guardian

For Muskan, the arrival of summer in Delhi is the "beginning of hell". As temperatures in her cramped, densely populated east Delhi neighbourhood often soar above 45C (113F), she dreams of only one thing: air conditioning.

During the day, in the tiny, windowless kitchen where she cooks for her family, she often feels like she will collapse from the heat and her health deteriorates. Nights are even more painful. Sleep becomes almost impossible in their single-room apartment.

Most viewed

- No pain, all gain: how to get stronger and build more muscle
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- Anora dominates the Oscars as Mikey Madison named best actress and Adrien Brody wins for The Brutalist
- Key takeaways from Oscars 2025: Brody beats on bestra, Brits keep it classy and Kieran Culkin botches his big moment

'A matter of survival': India's unstoppable need for air conditioners

VAIBHAV CHATURVEDI quoted in The Guardian, December 2023

The Guardian

'Enough of endless delays': will Cop28 force a course change for the world?

A potential peak in greenhouse gas emissions, methane efforts and climate finance are among the reasons for optimism

There are big ifs. The finding, from a respected group of scientists, is heavily hedged. Renewable energy rates could falter, fossil fuel companies will continue to seek to expand, and countries may fail to take the actions needed.

Says the industrial revolution, the amount of carbon poured into the atmosphere has risen steadily. On only a handful of occasions – the financial crisis of 2008-09, the lockdowns that followed the outbreak of Covid-19, and in more distant years depressions, wars and oil shocks – has the upward march of annually rising emissions reversed, and in all those cases it quickly recovered. In 2022, carbon dioxide emissions rose to their highest ever level, so even if this peak comes about, it will be much higher than hoped.

'Enough of endless delays': will Cop28 force a course change for the world?

ARUNABHA GHOSH quoted in The Guardian, December 2023

BBC

Inside India's first heat stroke emergency room

In one of the largest hospitals in India's capital, Delhi, a physician says he has never seen anything like this before.

"This is an unprecedented heatwave. In my 13 years of working here, I don't remember signing a death certificate for heat stroke. This year, I've signed several," says Ajay Chauhan of the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital (RMLH).

Delhi has been reeling under a prolonged heatwave, with daily temperatures crossing 40C (104F) since May, peaking at nearly 50C. Humidity and hot winds exacerbate the heat, compounded by water shortages and power outages due to soaring demand. And people are dying from the heat, with media reports suggesting at least 20 fatalities due to heat-related illnesses.

Inside India's first heat stroke emergency room

SHALU AGRAWAL quoted in BBC India, June 2024

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Integrating climate finance into India's economic blueprint

Synopsis
Pradeep S. Mehta, Secretary-General of CUTS International, suggested that India's 2024-25 Budget should include dedicated climate finance institutions through public-private partnerships during a webinar on accelerating private investment in climate finance. Mehta stressed the importance of private sector involvement for a sustainable and resilient future, highlighting the need for collaboration, innovation, and commitment.

Pradeep S. Mehta, Secretary-General of CUTS International, stressed the importance of private sector involvement for a sustainable and resilient future, highlighting the need for collaboration, innovation, and commitment.

India's 2024-25 Budget should consider the establishment of dedicated climate finance institutions in a public-private partnership mode, said Pradeep S.Mehta, Secretary-General of CUTS International, during a webinar titled 'Accelerating Private Investment in Climate Finance'.

Mehta also emphasised that engaging the private sector is central to building

Integrating climate finance into India's economic blueprint

DHRUBA PURKAYASTHA quoted in The Economic Times, July 2024

Will hybrids spoil the electric vehicle party in India?

FROM PAGE 10

for all types of hybrids—mild, strong and plug-in. But they were discontinued in 2017 after mild hybrids cornered the lion's share of the incentives. The Maruti Ciaz, Ertiga and Mahindra Scorpio were the cars that benefitted the most.

Apart from killing the incentive, the government also levied a 15% cess on hybrid cars under the GST regime, which increased the tax incidence from 30.3% excise to 43% GST. Hybrids suddenly became more expensive, leading to protests from the industry.

"We have done a detailed study on auto industry demand and a paper has been made. The fact (lower emissions) that is being presented industry for a reduction on GST on hybrid vehicles to 18%. The government has been non-committal on incentives for hybrids ever since.

WHICH IS CLEANER?

At the core of this lobbying for incentives are two questions. How clean are hybrids, and are EVs really as clean as they claim? Japanese carmakers say hybrids are significantly cleaner than conventional combustion engine vehicles, with carbon emissions almost 36% lower—the Honda City hybrid has a certified CO2 emission of 89.5 grams per kilometre (g/km) against the petrol version's 128.8g/km.

EVs have no tailpipe emissions whatsoever and are far cleaner. However, the bulk of other narrative, muddling the debate.

An IIT Kanpur study says manufacturing, usage and scrapping of EVs in India produces 15-50% more greenhouse gases than conventional and hybrid cars. Similarly, a report by HSBC Global Research says total carbon emissions at 'well to wheel' level for an EV in India currently stand at 158g/km against a hybrid car's 133g/km, and it may take up to 10 years for both to converge. Under the well-to-wheel scenario, power generation emissions are factored in for EVs, while crude oil mining/refining and tailpipe emissions are measured for hybrids.

Other studies counter these arguments. For instance, a electricity is produced by burning coal, lifetime emissions from battery electric vehicles were 19-34% lower than those of internal-combustion-engine vehicles. The gap would widen as renewable energy replaced thermal power in the grid over the next decade, it added.

"If we go with the polluter pays principle, which is followed in many geographies and industries, the government should not extend any tax benefits to strong hybrid vehicles as these are not zero-emission vehicles.

> The lack of charging outlets—there are about 12,000 public stations against the million-plus needed by 2030—has raised range anxiety among those considering EVs in India.

in terms of local air quality," said Sharif Qamar, Associate Director, Transport & Urban Governance Division, at sustainability think tank TERI. "Even with the current grid electricity emission factor, EVs score better than ICE technology."

What makes policymaking even more difficult is that hybrids may not be that clean either. Real-world emission tests of about 600,000 hybrid cars in the EU found that their emissions were 3.5 times higher than claimed.

Will hybrids spoil the electric vehicle party in India?

HIMANI JAIN quoted in Mint, June 2024

A pink auto route to empowering women

The recent elections saw how much the women vote mattered to all parties, especially the Bharatiya Janata Party which had unleashed over the past years a slew of welfare benefits for them. Now, it needs to raise the proportion of women in the workforce and enable them to be economically empowered and not just beneficiaries of government largesse. India has rightly promotion of renewables, of which electric vehicles (EVs) are a crucial component. India needs to push up the share of women as the mobility service providers which, at the moment, is a dismal 0.08%. They lack vocational training and lack of ownership of vehicles. Of the 28 states with EV policies, only three—Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Delhi—have initiatives port. So far, 30 women have received pink autos and several applications are pending. It has been a life-changing experience for the women involved. Amritsar's first female auto-driver, Sarabhjit Singh, a 38-year-old mother of three children, had to find a way to supplement her monthly income after her husband, a diesel auto driver, met with an accident in 2016. Earning just ₹6,500 every month as an embroiderer at a clothing factory was not enough to support her family. She learned to drive at night and began driving her husband's auto. She faced hostility from people in her community and male auto-drivers. But, she persisted with the support of her family. Today, she is a role model to many. With support from CEEW as part of the CAEH project, she acquired a pink

A pink auto route to empowering women

CEEW RESEARCH quoted in **Hindustan Times**, June 2024

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VISHWAS CHITALE

on 'The countries of Southeast Asia are experiencing an unprecedented heatwave'
France2 | May 2024

DISHA AGARWAL

on 'Sanchi: Benefits and challenges of India's first solar city'
DW-Scroll | November 2023

VAIBHAV CHATURVEDI

on 'COP28 Summit In Dubai Okays $475 Mn Loss & Damage Fund, India Seeks To Host COP33 In 2028'
CNBC TV18 | December 2023

APOORVE KHANDELWAL

on 'Is phygitisation the step needed in bringing about India's agro digital revolution'
DW-Scroll | July 2024

GAGAN SIDHU

on 'How Tesla could reshape India's EV market'
CNBC TV18 | April 2024

ABHISHEK JAIN

on 'Why decentralised renewable energy is key to India's long-term development goals'
DW-Scroll | October 2023

NITIN BASSI

on 'Delhi Water Minister Atishi Says, Haryana Govt Is Not Agreeing To Give Extra Water'
India Today | June 2024

ARUNABHA GHOSH

on 'India dealing with extreme heat stress'
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ARUNABHA GHOSH

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NITIN BASSI

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CNA | July 2024

DHRUBA PURKAYASTHA

on 'The Economic Survey 2024 and expectations from the Union Budget'
NewsX | July 2024

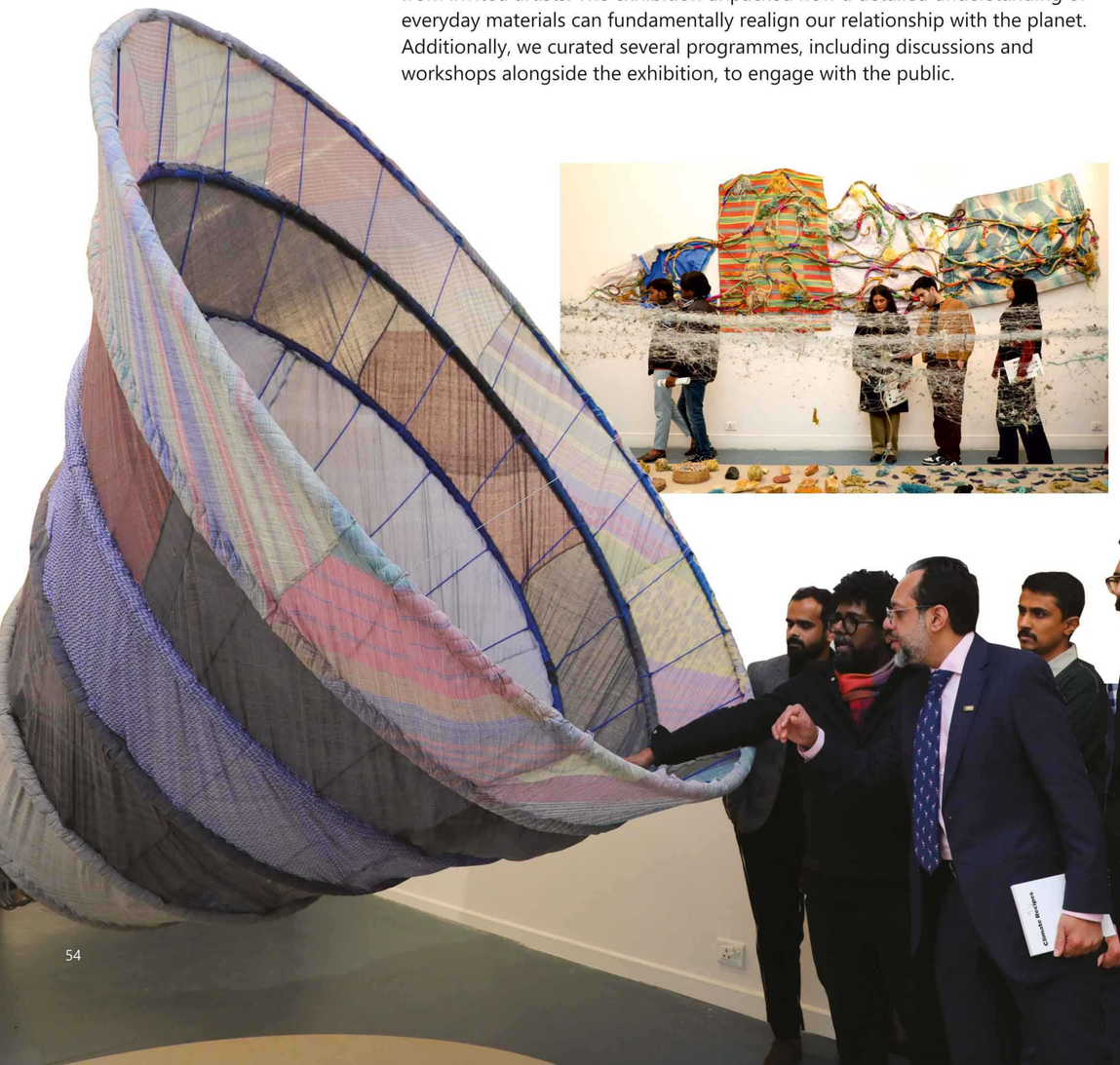
KARTHIK GANESAN

on 'The great climate change challenge: The uphill task Of decarbonising India across all sectors'
NDTV India | October 2023

Outreach innovations to mainstream sustainability

Sustaina India

CEEW, in collaboration with eminent artist duo Thukral & Tagra (T&T) organised a first-of-its-kind climate change x art exhibition, '*Sustaina India*', at Bikaner House, Delhi, on the sidelines of the India Art Fair in February 2024. The initiative, which includes annual fellowships, exhibitions, and public programmes, aims to mobilise creators to integrate climate change awareness and sustainability into India's cultural fabric and inspire action. In its first edition, Sustaina India supported three emerging artists—Debasmita Ghosh, Manjot Kaur, and Rachna Toshniwal—through a five-month fellowship programme. The fellowship concluded with a two-week-long exhibition that also showcased work from invited artists. The exhibition unpacked how a detailed understanding of everyday materials can fundamentally realign our relationship with the planet. Additionally, we curated several programmes, including discussions and workshops alongside the exhibition, to engage with the public.



Sadkaan Da Sartaaj

CEEW launched *Sadakaan Da Sartaaj* (Lord of the Roads), a music video featuring local auto drivers and pradhans (union leaders) championing electric auto transition in Amritsar. RedFM Amritsar broadcasted the song throughout February and March 2024. The music video complimented the CEEW- Amritsar Smart City Limited (ASCL) pilot programme aimed at boosting e3w adoption and reducing emissions in Amritsar.

Image: CEEW

Scan or click here

#CEEW Pride

CEEW's award-winning 16-part short documentary series, *Faces of Climate Resilience (FCR)*, began streaming on Disney+ Hotstar, one of India's top OTT platforms, on 05 July 2024.

Deal for climate

CEEW created 'Deal for Climate: A Global South Perspective,' a unique playing card deck for COP28. This innovative conversation piece used data points and recommendations to highlight climate issues, initiatives, and opportunities from the Global South.

Students and young professionals engaging with CEEW's Deal for Climate card deck at different workshops in Delhi.

COP28 media workshop

Ahead of the pivotal COP28 climate negotiations, CEEW convened a media workshop to prepare journalists for the critical dialogues and decisions ahead. The interactive session brought together 13 editors and reporters to arm them with comprehensive insights on the agenda, negotiation dynamics, and the unique perspectives that countries like India bring to the table.

Images: CEEW

The Sound of Energy: Blending music with the energy transition

In March 2024, CEEW partnered with Amarrass Records to co-curate The Sound of Energy—a musical night at Sunder Nursery blending live performances with India's energy transition story. The event featured an interactive exhibition showcasing decentralised renewable-energy-powered machines (solar silk reeling machines, rooftop solar, e-bikes). It drew 500+ attendees, including leaders from Clean Air Fund, NITI Aayog, ADB, and media (Mint, ET). Artists such as Patyatann (Mauritius), Wild Wild Women (Mumbai), and ghugu'mugu (Kathmandu) electrified the evening, mainstreaming sustainability with culture.

Images: CEEW

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01 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

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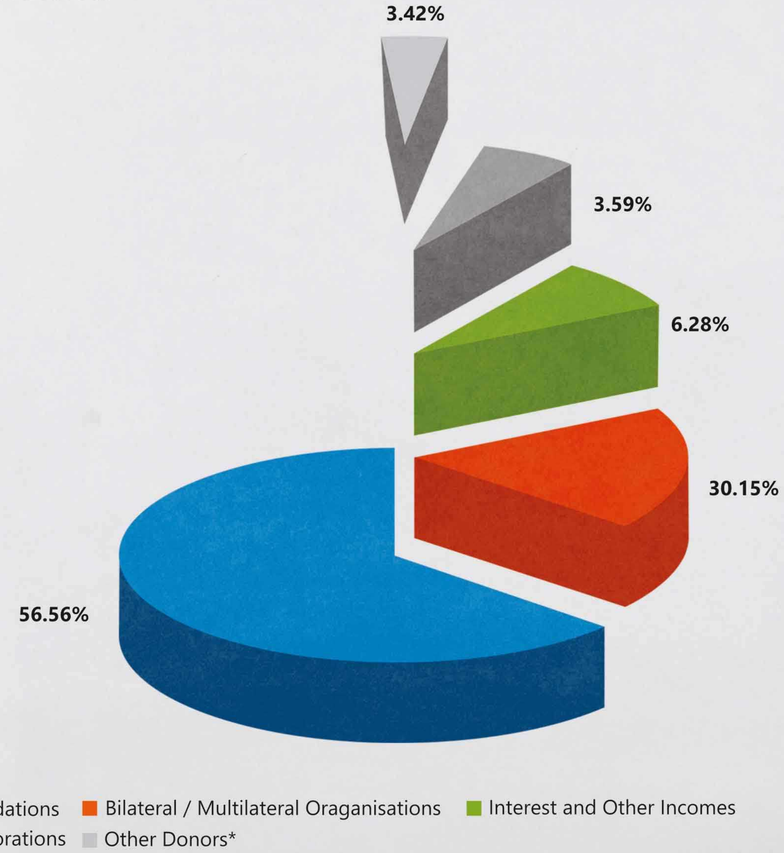

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Images: CEEW

In memorium

AJAY KUMAR
1990-2024

Ajay was more than just a colleague at CEEW. He was the heart and soul of our operations team. For eight years, he was a constant presence, a rock upon which we could rely. He joined us in our humble beginnings, and through every challenge and triumph, he was there, unwavering in his dedication. He will be fondly remembered by us for his laughter, kindness, friendship, and his resilience.

Annual report editorial team: **Kartikeya Jain, Sahil Pradhan, Alina Sen, Neera Majumdar, Arunava Banerjee, and Mihir Shah**

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Life@CEEW

SORABH PANT, Indian comedian and writer, with CEEW team members during Diwali celebrations.

CEEW team members concluding the 10,000-step walk along the Yamuna River in New Delhi as part of the #WalkingRivers initiative.

Diwali festivities at CEEW!

Images: CEEW

The team behind our anniversary celebrations!

CEEW team celebrating Holi at our Lucknow office.

Images: CEEW

CEEW's team members showcase their talent at our anniversary celebrations.

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