

Provisional Session Program

Session Title:	Transition to Low Carbon Buildings: Challenges and Opportunities
Session Lead:	Julie Robles, Project Manager, Asia Low Carbon Buildings Transition (ALCBT), GGGI, julie.robles@gggi.org Govinda Somani, Energy Advisor, GIZ govinda.somani@giz.de
Session Time	Monday, October 14, 2024 / 12:00-13:00 KST
Brief Session Description	<p>The Transition to Low Carbon Buildings session presents innovative strategies to transform existing and new buildings towards carbon neutrality by 2050 or earlier. It offers insights into sustainable building practices that improve living conditions and reduce the environmental footprint of the built environment.</p> <p>The transition to low carbon buildings is critical for addressing environmental and climate emergencies. Reducing the energy demand and carbon footprints from buildings is imperative to achieving NDC targets. The primary challenge is overcoming regulatory, capacity, and financing gaps. The session will demonstrate pathways to reducing emissions from building materials and operations, particularly cooling. Cooling is a major energy consumer and a growing concern in Asia due to increasing urbanization and rising temperatures. GGGI also aims to raise awareness of the Asia Low Carbon Buildings Transition (ALCBT) Project and officially launch the project website with the building carbon performance tool concept and LCB knowledge products. The Project is dedicated to advancing low-carbon building technologies, standards and practices across Asia, contributing significantly to national and regional efforts in achieving climate and sustainable development goals.</p> <p>Passive-design response in Increasing Thermal comfort with Viable Solutions (PRiTHVi) recommends easy to adopt solutions based on passive-design and passive-cooling principles to design and construct a thermally comfortable affordable housing. Passive design refers to architectural design strategies that utilize natural elements, such as sunlight, shade, ventilation, and local design architecture to maintain comfortable indoor temperatures without relying heavily on mechanical heating/ cooling systems. Thus, it is no cost or low-cost solution. This is especially relevant to the people living in social housing are most vulnerable as they may not be able to afford the artificial cooling solutions and have only one option - passive design. These strategies</p>

	not only enhance thermal comfort considerably in the affordable housing in most cost-effective approach but also reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.		
Regional Relevance	Asia		
Theme relevance	Efficient and sustainable resource use, Green economic opportunities, Climate/Natural Disasters		
Proposed session time	12:00-13:00 KST, October 14, 2024		
Administrative supporters	Nera Mariz Puyo, Knowledge Management Sr. Associate, mariz.puyo@gggi.org	Notetaker	Mariam Megha Paul, Project Associate, mariam.paul@gggi.org

Session Agenda (TBC)

Provisional agenda:

- 12:00-12:05 (5mins) Video Opening Remarks from P&C Mr. Ban Ki-Moon
- 12:05-12:45 (45mins) Introduction
Moderator: **Julie Robles**, ALCBT Project Manager, GGGI
- Speakers:
- **Rizky Aditya Putra**, Programme Manager of ALCBT, ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE)
 - **Girja Shankar**, General Manager-Technical, Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)
 - **Rohit Nepali**, Project Manager – Sustainable Buildings and Transport, HEAT International GmbH
 - **Govinda Somani**, Energy Advisor, GIZ
- Preview of the ALCBT Project website – Nera Mariz Puyo, Knowledge Management Sr. Associate, ALCBT, GGGI
- 12:45-13:00 (10mins) Q&A
Summary and Closing Remarks

Bio of Session Leads



Julie Robles

Project Manager of ALCBT, Global Green Growth Institute

Julie Robles is the Manager of the Asia Low Carbon Buildings Transition project. She has over 20 years of experience in leading strategic engagements, project development, and program management. She has managed the implementation of several ADB regional technical assistance and integrated urban development projects, led the growth of GGGI's Green Climate Fund portfolio with projects in over 20 countries worldwide including on sustainable energy, and co-authored GGGI's Green City Development Guidelines and Enhancing Access to Climate Finance through Readiness Support. She is a civil engineer and holds an MSc in Human Settlements from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium and a master's degree in public administration. She has also completed a course in Globalization from the University of Oxford.



Govinda Somani

Energy Advisor, GIZ

Govinda Somani is a policy professional working towards policies on Climate Smart and Resilient Urban Transformation. He has over 14 years of experience working in design, development and implementation of national policies and standards on energy efficiency, thermal comfort and appliances. He is currently leading projects under Climate Smart Buildings Programme at GIZ and supporting Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in incorporating necessity of thermal comfort in affordable housing through climate smart buildings initiatives and live laboratory experiments. He has led the development of Passive-design response in increasing thermal comfort with viable solution (PRiTHVi) – a unique standard on climate resilient homes, incubation of new & sustainable construction technologies under ASHA-India, and Pan-India demonstration and awareness initiatives.

He has led the development of EcoNiwas Samhita 2021, a national code on energy efficiency in residential building in India and Energy Conservation Building Code 2017, a national code on energy efficiency in commercial buildings in India. He has also supported various initiatives under appliances labeling, encouraging the use of sustainable materials, state policy support and notification, and business model development to mainstream policies.

Bio of Panel members



Girja Shankar

General Manager-Technical, Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)

Girja Shankar received the Undergraduate degree in electrical engineering from the Malviya Regional Engineering College (MREC), Jaipur, India in 1993, And Postgraduate Degree in Power System from Malviya National institute of technology, Jaipur, India in 2005. He is currently working as General Manager (Tech) in Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), A JV under Ministry of Power, Government of India and leading consultancy portfolio of industrial energy efficiency and cooling related externally funded projects from UNIDO, UNEP, ADB and World Bank under Corporate Driven Programme. He had worked as Regional Cluster Head of South West Cluster covering EESL's operations in the states of Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala and Karnataka. Earlier, he had worked in Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Public Works Department Rajasthan & DISCOM and having over 31 years' experience in energy efficiency and cleaner technologies. He was instrumental in setting up of institutional framework of ESCert trading under PAT Scheme of BEE. His research interests include power quality, energy efficiency and ESCO financing.



Rizky Aditya Putra

Programme Manager of ALCBT, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Department, ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE)

Mr. Rizky Aditya Putra is the Programme Manager of Asia Low Carbon Buildings Transition at ASEAN Centre for Energy, a multi-year cooperation initiative aiming for catalysing the transition towards low-carbon buildings across Southeast Asia.

Prior to assuming the role, he served as the Senior Officer of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) at ACE, where he coordinated the regional cooperation and partnership among ASEAN Member States, Dialogue Partners, and International Organisations including in achieving the regional energy intensity reduction target of 32% by 2025. Additionally, he led the implementation of regional and multilateral EE&C-related projects with key partners, such as Japan and South Korea.



Rohit Nepali

Project Manager, ALCBT – Sustainable Buildings and Transport
HEAT International GmbH

Rohit Nepali has over four years of experience in sustainable transport and is currently a project manager at HEAT GmbH. Currently he is managing 3 projects in HEAT: i) IKI Asia Low Carbon Building Transition (ALCBT) project, ii) National Energy Climate Plan (NECP) modelling for Albania and Montenegro and iii) Socio-economic study for green shipping in South Africa. He is a civil engineer and holds an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's Degree in Sustainable Territorial Development from 3 universities: University of Padova, Katholieke Universiteit (KU) Leuven, and University of Paris-1 Pantheon Sorbonne.

Rohit has worked in the past with several organizations, including the International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT), the SLoCaT Secretariat, and the SAARC Secretariat. He also specializes in analyzing vehicle emissions and designing low emission zones. His past work focused on quantifying greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions from on-road vehicles and using these real-world datasets to develop low-carbon policies for cities like Abu Dhabi, Krakow, Gliwice and Warsaw.