

Amit Kumar

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Mr. Kumar is a Mechanical Engineer with specialization in thermal engineering from University of Roorkee (now Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee) where he was awarded the University Gold Medal.

As Senior Director, Social Transformation Division, he is responsible for initiatives focusing on energy access, holistic rural development, and community engagement. Earlier, Mr. Kumar had also led research activities in the fields of renewable energy and resource efficient process technology applications in TERI.

He has been working on the development and diffusion of cleaner and renewable energy resources based technological solutions in India for over 34 years. His experience ranges from policy and programme formulation, through project implementation, to the design and development of renewable-energy technologies, as well as manufacturing of solar energy devices. His exposure combines different facets of renewable energy industry as well as research domain.

Mr. Kumar was actively involved in projects related to the development of Sri Lanka's policy framework for renewable resource based electricity generation and the integrated energy management master plan for Bhutan, in addition to coordinating part of a multi-country GEF-supported study to assess solar and wind resources in developing countries. He has also managed design, construction and commissioning of one of the largest solar ponds in the world, at Bhuj in western India from 1987 to 1996, as well as Asia's first solar powered cold storage in the early eighties. Besides leading the initiative to develop solar-biomass based cold storage-cum-power generation systems for decentralized, rural applications, he has also been working on a programme for accelerated usage of biomass-based clean energy solutions in the rural villages and micro, small, and medium enterprises.

He is actively involved in taking forward South - South cooperation in Africa and the Pacific Island countries. In his capacity as the Regional Programme Advisor, REEEP (Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership) South Asia Secretariat; he oversees REEEP activities in the region. He has travelled widely as an invited expert.

Mr Kumar is also coordinating SE4All Capacity Building Hub; one of the global hubs of the UN supported Sustainable Energy for All initiative (SE4All).

As Dean (Distance & Short Term Education), TERI University between 2014 and 2016, Mr. Kumar was responsible for development and outreach of University's online courses, management & faculty development programmes, and other skill enhancement initiatives.