

“Advancing Climate Resilience for Energy Security in Southeast Asia” - International Energy Agency-hosted Pre-Forum Event at Asia Clean Energy Forum 2024, Manila, Philippines.

Aishwarya Pillai, Lead Specialist – Learning Initiatives & Publications at the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) was invited to participate at the Pre-Forum event of Asia Clean Energy Forum – “Advancing Climate Resilience for Energy Security in Southeast Asia”.

The Pre-Forum Event sought to identify how climate change affects the energy sector in Southeast Asia and how strategic actions can be promoted to enhance climate resilience. The forum involved a panel discussion on the said topic.

The following points were put forth and discussed by Aishwarya Pillai:

A key challenge facing the mainstreaming of climate resilience in the energy sector is access to accurate, contextual, adaptable, and interoperable data for risk-informed decisions to drive investments. The Global Infrastructure Resilience Index (GIRI) platform, the first fully probabilistic risk model to estimate risk for infrastructure assets with respect to key geological and climate hazards, was disseminated as a potential solution. The GIRI data platform also received endorsement from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) representative stating that their Asia-Pacific Risk & Resilience Portal 2.0 draws upon GIRI data.



The need for climate policy and financing for adaptation and resilience, as well as addressing the intersectionality aspect of resilient infrastructure, was emphasized. The International Energy Agency (IEA) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) endorsed the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure's (CDRI) role as a global convener of conversations and interventions on the resilience of infrastructure and the Community of Practice (CoP) for knowledge sharing on energy resilience.

CDRI's power sector resilience program, particularly the three-part study on the resilient power sector in Odisha, and the general advisory that emerged from the study, as well as the CDRI-led multistakeholder, knowledge-sharing, and collaborative initiative, the Community of Practice on Resilient Infrastructure for Energy Transition, were also briefly discussed.

Addressing these challenges and leveraging the opportunities presented by platforms like GIRI and initiatives led by organizations such as CDRI, UNESCAP, IEA, and ADB can help mainstream climate resilience in the energy sector, leading to more sustainable and resilient infrastructure development.