

Press Release

Grid Code Study for Power Integration in South Asia Released

SAARC Director, ETS and Deputy Director General, DOED, Government of Nepal - Release the USAID-Supported SARI/EI Study

Kathmandu, Nepal, 30th August, 2017: In an effort to boost cross-border electricity trade in the South Asia region, the U.S. Agency for International Development's South Asia Regional Initiative for Energy Integration (SARI/EI) program unveiled today a new study on better grid planning and system operation using grid code framework guidelines. Mr. Haider Ali Altaf, Director of Energy, Transport, Science and Technology Division in SAARC Secretariat, Nepal, and Mr. Purusotam Acharya, Deputy Director General, Government of Nepal, jointly released the study titled "Harmonization of Grid Codes, Operating Procedures and Standards to Facilitate/Promote Cross-Border Electricity Trade (CBET) in the South Asia Region (SAR)."

While lauding the efforts of SARI/EI program, Mr. Altaf, Director, SAARC Secretariat, added: "A safe and secure integrated grid in South Asia will help in enhancing power trade and long-term sustainability in the region."

The grid code study, a first of its kind, has been developed by the Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe) under the fourth phase of the SARI/EI Program. SARI/EI has been active in South Asia since the year 2000 to promote cross-border electricity trade to accelerate regional economic development. Operating an integrated electricity grid is essentially a coordination issue. A key recommendation in the study is the setting up of a Framework Grid Code Guidelines, which though non-binding, will provide a consistent regional framework for system planning, transmission connections and operational rules to be followed by grid users and other stakeholders. Keeping in view the technical complexity, the study also underlines the need of a regional institution to facilitate in the coordinated system planning and operations.

Mr. Purusotam Acharya, DDG, Government of Nepal, appreciated the efforts made by the program and hoped that "the grid code study and creation of technical body such as the South Asia Forum of Transmission Utilities will help in enhancing cross-border power trade in the region."

Highlighting the various initiatives taken under the SARI/EI program including the development of Regional Regulatory Guidelines, Open Access Framework, Regional Investment Framework, Model Power Purchase Agreement and Transmission Service Agreement, Mr. V.K. Kharbanda, SARI/EI Project Director, added: "The grid code study will act as a base document for countries for implementation of a safe, secure and reliable integrated power system in the region."

For more details about the study, please click the following link

<https://sari-energy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Harmonisation-of-grid-codes-operating-procedures-and-standards-to-facilitatepromote-cross-border-electricity-trade-in-the-south-Asia-region-Framework-grid-code-guidelines-Rajiv-LR-1.pdf>

<https://sari-energy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Summary-Note-on-the-Report-Harmonisation-of-Grid-Codes-Operating-Procedures-30th-August-2017-Nepal-Rajiv-2-1.pdf>

Or contact:

Rajiv Ratna Panda @rajivratanpanda@irade.org