

## **Leveraging the ‘Co-benefits’ of Renewable Energy in India: Report Launch**

A number of areas in the energy sector, such as technology, demand growth, economics, climate change considerations are undergoing vast changes, making it apparent that its current status quo cannot be sustained. India has undertaken ambitious targets in this sector, such as a 33-35% emission intensity reduction and a conditional target of 40% power generation capacity by non-fossils, and is further committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. These targets need to be achieved immediately and simultaneously. In order to enhance the interlinking benefits, there is need to deliberate and assess the set of policy interventions which simultaneously address NDCs and SDGs including enhanced livelihood, green jobs, better quality of life and health amongst others.

There is a need to study the policy interactions amongst various available policy interventions in order to maximize benefits by making informed policy choices. Hence, through our partnership with Institute for Advance Sustainability Studies (IASS), TERI and CEEW have undertaken research on the socio-economic ‘co-benefits’ of renewable energy deployment through the collaborative project ‘Mobilizing the co-benefits of climate change mitigation’. This is to enable stakeholders in the energy sector to come together and discuss (i) policy interventions with multiple benefits, (ii) challenges and barriers to implement such policies, and (iii) innovative ways to overcome these barriers.

The national level COBENEFITS council provides strategic advice in order to guide studies in line with these objectives, the key ‘co-benefits’ of renewable energy for India emerged to be. Through previous consultations with the COBENEFITS council, the key co-benefits for India emerged to be in the areas of energy access, clean air and health, and employment. Research teams at TERI and CEEW have henceforth undertaken research on these co-benefits and concluded their studies.