

**STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES
AMONG
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR TRANSFORMING INDIA
AND
THE UNITED STATES ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION
AND
THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
CONCERNING ENERGY DATA MANAGEMENT**

Scope and Purpose

The National Institution for Transforming India (hereinafter referred to as “NITI Aayog”), the United States Energy Information Administration (EIA) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (hereinafter referred to individually as a “Participant” and collectively as the “Participants”), intend to pursue cooperation in the area of energy data management (EDM) in accordance with this Statement of Principles (SOP).

Over the past two years, NITI Aayog and USAID have collaborated on EDM, which is one of the three activities under the Sustainable Growth Working Group (SGWG) of the Indo-U.S. Energy Dialogue. This collaboration has included researching and sharing international best practices of EDM, characterizing the EDM system in India, and identifying opportunities for strengthening India’s EDM. NITI Aayog convened the relevant Government of India (GOI) ministries and formed a Committee to assess potential activities and strategies to strengthen EDM. Through meetings, workshops and discussions with these stakeholders, the SGWG supported NITI Aayog in developing a roadmap for improved EDM in India. EIA is the U.S. Government’s nodal agency on EDM, and has supported these efforts through presentations and webinars, meetings and discussions.

The purpose of this SOP is to advance this collaboration through further planned engagement among the Participants.

Planned Cooperative Activities

Planned areas of cooperation span the areas of EDM and may include: (a) adapting EIA best practices to the Indian context; (b) sharing methodological approaches towards improving the accuracy, availability and timeliness of energy data; (c) sharing analysis tools; and (d) compiling lessons learned in EDM institutional design, including structure, authority, budget, manpower requirements and other activities.

The Participants expect collaboration to be conducted through workshops, trainings, discussions, technical exchanges, technical task forces, joint studies and specific projects.

The Participants intend for collaboration to build on and support cooperation under the existing U.S.-India Energy Dialogue Working Groups, including the other focal areas under the SGWG (energy modeling and geospatial analysis), the New Technologies and Renewable Energy (NTRE) working group, and the Power and Energy Efficiency (P&EE) working group.

Planned Roles and Responsibilities

NITI Aayog intends to coordinate participation of Indian entities in these activities. Such Indian entities may include GOI Ministries and agencies, as well as private sector and non-governmental organizations funded by NITI Aayog to carry out activities envisioned under this SOP.

EIA intends to provide technical advisory support and participate in activities under this SOP through presentations, webinars, meetings, and discussions.

USAID, in its capacity as U.S. Government lead of the SGWG, intends to coordinate participation of other U.S. entities in this effort. Such other U.S. entities may include U.S. Government agencies, as well as private sector and non-governmental organizations funded by the USAID to carry out activities envisioned under this SOP.

Other entities, such as international organizations, may participate in activities under this SOP by mutual written consent of the Participants.

Unless the Participants decide otherwise in an appropriate written instrument, each Participant intends to be responsible for the costs it incurs in participating in activities under this SOP.

General Provisions

This SOP does not impose any legally binding obligations upon the Participants. The conduct of cooperation contemplated by this SOP is subject to the availability of appropriated funds, personnel and other resources. Each Participant intends to conduct the cooperative activities contemplated by this SOP in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and policies to which it is subject.

This SOP may be modified by mutual written consent of the Participants. The Participants may discontinue this SOP at any time by mutual written consent. Alternatively, a Participant that wishes to discontinue its participation in this SOP should endeavor to provide at least thirty (30) days advance written notice to the other Participants.

Cooperative activities under this SOP are expected to commence upon signature and may continue until September 30, 2017, unless earlier discontinued, as provided above.

Signed at New Delhi in triplicate, this 10th day of August 2016.

FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION
FOR TRANSFORMING INDIA:




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