



Seminar

From Traditional Fuels to LPG and LED Use: Policy Instruments for a Sustainable Transition of Household Cooking and Lighting Habits in India

Presenting the results of an Indo-Swiss research project

Embassy of Switzerland, Monday, 6 August 2018

The transition to cleaner energy sources and technologies for cooking and lighting in India has been the focus of major policy efforts in recent years. Researchers from the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi University, and from the University of Zurich will share their results on LPG consumption among beneficiaries of the Indian Government's Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana programme (PMUY) as well as on the use of LED. The focus of the seminar will be on LPG.

Regarding both LPG and LED, the increase in uptake has been an unprecedented success. For LPG, however, actual consumption has not followed the increase in connections. Many households are still completely unaware of the severe health risks associated with traditional cooking. Can information on these health hazards improve the actual use of LPG? Regarding LED, little is known so far about its uptake in rural, rather than urban areas.

Based on a survey of 550 households in rural Bikaner district (Rajasthan), the present study can shed light on these issues. It was carried out in the context of the Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme in the Social Sciences, jointly funded by the Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR) and the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI).

Following the presentation of the study results, a high-level expert panel of academics and practitioners will put the study results in a broader perspective and relate them to political and practical issues of implementation.

Agenda

- 15:30 Welcome address
Ms Tamara Mona, Minister and Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Switzerland
- 15:35 Opening Remarks
Professor Manoj Panda, Director, Institute of Economic Growth
- 15:40 Introductory Remarks on the Indo-Swiss Programme on Social Sciences
Professor V.K. Malhotra, Member Secretary, Indian Council of Social Science Research
- 15:45 Presentation of the research results: ***“From Traditional Fuels to LPG and LED Use: Policy Instruments for a Sustainable Transition of Household Cooking and Lighting Habits in India”***
- Professor Purnamita Dasgupta**, Chair in Environmental Economics and Head, Environmental and Resource Economics Unit, Institute of Economic Growth
Professor Katharina Michaelowa, Professor of Political Economy and Development, Department of Political Science, University of Zurich
Ms Ishita Sachdeva, PhD candidate, Department of Business Economics, University of Delhi
Ms Martina Zahno, PhD candidate, Department of Political Science, University of Zurich

16:20 Q&A and Discussion

16:40 Panel Discussion: “**Accelerating & Upscaling the Transition**”

Chair:

Mr. Ashutosh Jindal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

Panellists:

Professor N.K. Arora, Executive Director, International Clinical Epidemiology Network, India

Mr. Manish Grover, GM (Sales), Indian Oil Corporation Limited

Professor E. Somanathan, Professor, Indian Statistical Institute

Mr. Ashok Sreenivas, Prayas, Energy Group

17:30 Open Discussion

18:00 High Tea hosted by the Embassy of Switzerland