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PRESENTED BY THE WATERLOO INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Friday July 13, 2018
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
DC 1302

DECODING THE ENERGY ACCESS PUZZLE:

AN OVERVIEW OF AN EXPERIMENT AT THE GRASSROOTS LEVEL

Sankaran Ramalingam, WISE Senior Research Fellow, University of Waterloo

It is laudable to have a mission and a clarity of purpose to deliver the fundamental physics and Material design innovations that would pave way to the next set of devices to handle Energy Access Challenges. But the solutions must be adopted in the cultural context of the way people live their lives. The key is to have a deep supply chain expertise to provide solutions at both a price point and performance point that are sustainable.

In the wake of the above trajectory, it will make sense to explore an economic model that supports energy supply as well as creation, by households at the grassroots that is scalable and replicable besides distributing economic wealth better and being sustainable from a people-profit-planet perspective. Modalities of involving the corporates' managerial expertise to integrate innovative marketing and financial modelling as well are also brought out.

In addition, the model brings into focus that it can bring in socio-economic benefits such as, livelihood, carbon emission reduction, poverty alleviation, maternal and child health, women Empowerment etc., and fits very well with the mission of AE4H.

Biography

Sankaran Ramalingam is currently a WISE Senior Research Fellow and is the President of ENFUSE, the Energy & Fuel User's Association of India. He studied Electrical and Mechanical Engineering in Guindy Madras and also holds a post graduate diploma in Management. Sankaran is the former Chairman & Managing Director of Chennai Petroleum Corporation and has previously served as Chairman for the National Aromatics and Petrochemicals Corporation.

With over 40 years of experience in the Industry, Sankaran now focuses on the promotion of solar and other renewable energies, in India. He now heads the planning commission on Power and Renewable Energy for the 11th Plan for the State Power and Renewable Energy as appointed by the Tamil Nadu Government in India.

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