



Prospects & Challenges of Connectivity & Trading in Power & Energy

A Regional & International Perspective



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October 2016

Edited by

Professor Syed Munir Khasru

Chairman

The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance

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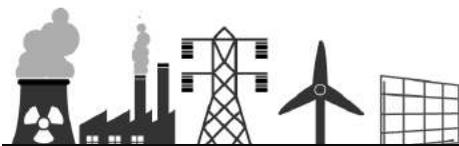
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Editorial team led by: Prof. Syed Munir Khasru

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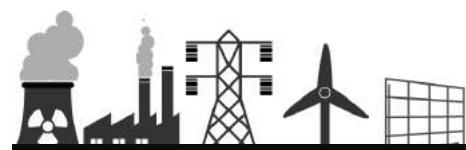
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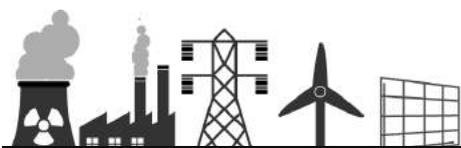
Table of Contents

Foreword	1
Felicitations	5
Thematic Area I: The Geopolitics of Power & Energy Trade	15
1. Energy for Peace: Global Insights and the Case for South Asia	17
2. Geopolitics of SAARC and the Future of Regional Energy Sharing	27
3. Tackling the Geopolitical Challenges of Power Trade in South Asia: Two Divergent Development Paths	37
Thematic Area II: Energy Cooperation in South Asia: Regional Perspectives and Strategic Dimensions	49
a. Governance and Policy Dimensions	51
4. Institutionalizing Cross Border Electricity Trade in South Asia	53
5. Private Sector Participation in Promoting Regional Energy Cooperation in South Asia – The Case of United Power Generation & Distribution Co. Ltd. (UPGDCL)	69
6. Governance and Policy Implications of Regional Power Trade & Energy Cooperation in South Asia	79
7. Cross-border Power Trading in South Asia: Opportunity or Threat to Energy Security	89
8. Governance and Policy Dimensions of Regional Power Trade and Energy Co-operation in South Asia	99



Prospects & Challenges of Connectivity & Trading in Power & Energy
A Regional & International Perspective

b. Technical and Financial Dimensions	107
9. Energy Market Integration in ASEAN: Economics, Technology and Welfare Implications	109
10. The Economies of Cross-Border Electricity Trading in Bangladesh	119
11. Economies of Cross-Border Trade and Energy Cooperation	129
12. Energy Scenario in SASEC Countries: Incentives, Prospects and Challenges	137
13. Human Resources Issues of Power and Energy Sector Trading Ventures & Connectivity in South Asia and Beyond	153
14. Regional Electricity Trade	163
Thematic Area III: Lessons from International Best Practices	177
15. Regional Grid Interconnection and Cooperation	179
16. Successful Cross-Border Trade: Lessons from Greater Mekong Sub-Region (GMS)	195
Thematic Area IV: Future of Alternative Energy Sources	211
17. New Ways of Financing Renewable Energy Infrastructure in Asia	213
18. Trade-off between Energy Security & Environmental Protection	221
Thematic Area V: Energy Accessibility, Generation and Trading: National & Regional Perspectives	231
19. Affordable Energy for Bangladesh-Can We Avoid Coal?	233
20. Possibilities & Challenges in Bangladesh-India Energy Cooperation	245



Prospects & Challenges of Connectivity & Trading in Power & Energy
A Regional & International Perspective

21. Regional Interconnection and Cross-Border Power Trade: Bangladesh's Perspective	257
22. Cross Border Connectivity in Power Sector: Opportunities for Bangladesh –Business View	267
23. Tapping into the Hydro Potential of North East India: A Win-Win for Bangladesh & India	283
24. Corporatization of Bangladesh Power Development Board	291
25. Grid or Hybrid? : An Underlying Realism of Maldives Power Connectivity	299
26. Essentials of Energy in Sri Lanka	307
27. Meeting Power Crisis through Regional Grid: The Viable Options	323
28. Rural Electrification in Bangladesh: Overview, Challenges and the Way Forward	331
29. Regional Power Trade in South Asia – Energy Trilemma & Bangladesh	345
30. Rural Electricity, Rural Growth, and National Milestone	353





Foreword

Prof. Syed Munir Khasru

Chairman

The Institute for Policy, Advocacy,
and Governance (IPAG)

As the world enters into the ‘Asian Century’, South and South East Asian nations will face unprecedented demand for power and energy as their economies grow and prosper. Asia is currently facing the highest demand for energy and the region is set to surpass the rest of the world in terms of energy consumption by 2035. Over the next few decades, massive energy demand from growing Asian economies will shape the global energy markets.

While many economies have adequate natural resources to cater to the growing energy demand of Asia, due to inadequate infrastructure, weak regulatory reform, and poor coordination and cooperation mechanism among complementing economies, the energy market potentials in South Asia have not been efficiently exploited. The need of the hour is to inject dynamism into the existing energy trading practices and to strengthen regional energy cooperation to effectively exploit available conventional & non-conventional energy resources. One of the key objectives of the power & energy sectors in South and South East Asia is to formulate realistic strategies to cooperate, negotiate and share energy and power resources that delivers economic dividends to the people of the region. Towards that end, a comprehensive and well-coordinated action plan is needed that promotes energy that is not only green and clean but also cost effective and sustainable.

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The policymakers and practitioners in the region are yet to have full orientation of various scopes of using cleaner energy sources for big scale commercial purposes. Importance of knowledge & experimentation, sharing & dissemination in energy & power trading & connectivity in the region can hardly be overemphasized. Unless knowhow in these critical areas are shared, leveraged and distributed among the experts, policymakers & practitioners, the power and energy sector will not be well poised to positively respond to the opportunities and challenges that are expected to emerge in the near future as countries in the region move towards greater cooperation, connectivity, and trade in power & energy.

Against the background of these ground realities, The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG) has taken the initiative to publish the book on, “Connectivity and Trading in Energy & Power Sector: Opportunities & Challenges from National, Regional & Global Perspective” The book has articles from well-respected and seasoned experts, policymakers, practitioners and academicians in diverse but closely related areas of trade & connectivity in the power & energy sector. The rich pool of writers represent national and global professionals who have experience and knowledge on key areas like multilateral power trading and cooperation, technical and policymaking aspects of power trading and environmental & geopolitical impacts on energy sharing. From Norway to Australia, Japan to Singapore, Korea to India, and Bangladesh to Sri Lanka – the book has contribution from some of the leading experts from around the world.

The diverse nationalities and areas of expertise of the writers speak of the rich intellectual content of the book which will undoubtedly make significant contribution in enhancing the knowledge and maturing the understanding on the key parameters of power & energy sector,

Prospects & Challenges of Connectivity & Trading in Power & Energy
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particularly in cross-border connectivity & trade. The conflicting goals of increasing trade and decreasing carbon footprint can be achieved by making energy resources cleaner and more affordable for the growing economies. Towards that end, this book is a positive step by raising awareness through greater dissemination of knowledge and better appreciation of the trade-offs resulting from the choices that the countries will have to make in the coming days. Choices that will have direct effect in their long term goal of achieving economic growth fueled by energy that is clean & green, efficient & affordable.

As part of our strong commitment to adhere to highest professional standards and academic excellence, IPAG welcomes comments and suggestions that will add positive value to further additions to the IPAG Knowledge Series that will be published in the future.

Best wishes,



Prof. Syed Munir Khasru