

Phase II

10<sup>th</sup> Talk Series

Transitioning to Modern Energy for Cooking

# Engaging Women

## A GAMECHANGER

27th July 2023

1600-1700 Hrs IST | 1130-1230 Hrs BST



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## Speaker Profile



**Ms Sheetal Rastogi, Cofounder, Finovista  
(In-Country Partner, MECS Programme in  
India)**

### **Brief Profile:**

Sheetal holds over 15 years of experience in developing strategy and execution roadmaps for new business initiatives. She has a diverse background of working with leading firms in Banking & Finance, Manufacturing, and Specialty Retail. With a strong focus on executions and result driven approach, she has been responsible for successfully setting up and scaling new business initiatives during her corporate experience. At Finovista, Sheetal has been leading strategy and programme execution and has been engaged extensively in each of the projects with Developmental Agencies, Government Bodies, Industry Chambers etc.

Her passion towards encouraging entrepreneurship has led to the execution of multiple innovation support and entrepreneurship development programmes in Finovista, some of which were on specific thematic areas like Clean Cooking, Bamboo Innovation Challenge, and Women entrepreneurship programmes.

Under the work on Modern Energy Cooking Services(MECS) Programme, in India, Sheetal has been instrumental in leading the executions of the various initiatives under the programme, planning and strategizing new initiatives and concepts "Talk Series" & "Modern Energy Cooking Forum 2022". She has also been the lead for the work under building strong evidence on electric cooking through India eCookbook – Cooking Study Design & Development, project In-depth exploration of 100% cooking with electricity, field trail of electric cooking for 14 households, electric cooking appliance mapping.



**Dr Tripta Thakur, Director General, National Power Training Institute**

**Brief Profile:**

Tripta Thakur is Director General, National Power Training Institute (NPTI), apex body of Ministry of Power, Government of India. She was earlier Head and Professor, Electrical Engineering Department at the National Institute of Technology, MANIT-Bhopal, India. She is a graduate in Electrical Engineering with Master's degree in Power Electronics from IIT-Kanpur, and has a PhD from IIT-Delhi. She has been the recipient of several awards such as Commonwealth Research Scholar at the University of Dundee (2005-2008), UK, Commonwealth Academic fellow at Durham University Business School (2014), UK, COFUND Senior researcher at Durham University Business School (2016), Visiting Faculty at Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok (2010), technical member for International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), SEG4 Group, ISGF (MoP) working group member etc. She has teaching and research experience of 28 years, and has nearly 100 publications to her credit. She has also been a Consultant for evolving a possible Common South Asian Electricity Markets. She has done various consultancies for Distribution companies in India



**Ms Silvia Sartori, Senior Consultant, E Co.**

**Brief Profile:**

Silvia Sartori is a Senior Consultant with E Co., a management consultancy specialized in the design, formulation and assessment of energy and climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and programmes. For the past 17 years Silvia has been working in different capacities on multiple international development and cooperation projects in Asia, at the nexus of energy, environment and climate, women's empowerment and entrepreneurship, private sector development, innovation and sustainability. Between 2021 and 2022 she led the Women's Economic Empowerment portfolio of ENERGIA, the International network on gender and sustainable energy. She is currently also serving as a Senior Expert on Women in Energy in Central Asia, with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Her academic background is in SME Management and Development, and Asian Studies.



**Dr Joni Cook**  
**Communications Officer, MECS**

**Brief Profile:**

Joni is the MECS Communications Officer. Joni has worked in the renewable energy and international development landscape since March 2017, having previously managed communications for the Low Carbon Energy for Development Network (LCEDN). Joni holds a PhD in Geography, specialising in plant ecology.



**Ms Ritu Singh, Deputy General Manager,**  
**EESL**

**Brief Profile:**

Dr. Ritu Singh, Deputy General Manager in Energy Efficiency Services Limited is a postgraduate in Economics and holds a Doctoral Degree. She started her career as faculty of Economics, ICFAI in 2006 and has also worked with TERI on green growth and sustainable mobility. She joined EESL in April 2015 as the Regional Manager, Rajasthan where she implemented energy efficiency programmes such as Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA), Streetlight National Programme (SLNP), Building Energy Efficiency Programme (BEEP). She is presently a core member of the Corporate Planning division and is working for the appellate authority and risk management. In addition, she is designated as the Gender Focal Point in the organization and spearheads gender mainstreaming interventions.



**Ms Reena Suri, Executive Director, India Smart Grid forum**

**Brief Profile:**

Reena Suri, Executive Director with India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF) since 2013, brings over 20 years of experience in the Energy Sector. Reena has contributed to the various advisory services, whitepapers, research reports, capacity building initiatives and pilot implementation projects of ISGF such as: Implementation Plan for Electrification of Public Transportation; Blockchain for Electric Utilities; Energy Storage Roadmap for India; Smart Grid Roadmap; Development of Roadmap for Implementation of Smart Grid and electric Vehicle Infrastructure in SAARC Region; and World Bank EV Project: EV Ecosystem Support for Kolkata. Reena is the founder-editor of the Smart Grid Bulletin published by ISGF since January. Reena has been leading various initiatives to increase gender diversity in the energy sector. The initiatives lead by her were helpful in enhancing networking and mentoring programs for women; creating awareness of and technology amongst women; and attracting women to technical education and showcasing role models.



**Ms Aarthi Kanodia, Director, RealFlame / Pearl Print Pack Pvt Ltd**

**Brief Profile:**

Ms. Aarthi Kanodia studied Business Management and is the only woman manufacturer of cookstoves among 50-60 manufacturers in India. Her experience lies in establishing supply chain and deep distribution networks for stoves in India. At present, the company under her directorship has sold over 3 million cooking stoves across all Indian states, to provide clean, yet affordable cooking solutions to the rural populace.