At COP26 Glasgow, India has showcased climate leadership with the announcement of new and bold climate commitments by 2030 and net-zero target by 2070. For India, the Government’s vision to achieve a $5 trillion economy by 2024 entails investments in several sectors, more noticeably in industry sub-sectors like steel and cement that are vital for flagship initiatives. The analysis by TERI shows the crude steel capacity in the country will increase from a current level of 142 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to 528 MTPA by 2050 to meet the need of India’s growing urban infrastructure and manufacturing sector. Similarly, for cement, demand is expected to increase three-fold by 2040, driven by infrastructure requirements. However, this growth will have significant energy, environmental, resource and economic consequences. It is, therefore, vital to discuss the pathways to decarbonize these sectors to ensure that India stays on track to meet its emissions targets whilst ensuring economic growth.

Globally, several routes to decarbonisation are being considered in harder-to-abate industry sectors, including Carbon Capture Use and Storage (CCUS), use of hydrogen as a heat source or a reduction agent, electrification, use of biomass as an energy source, material circularity amongst others. The potential pathway will vary across industries, and most new technologies are at an early stage of development. It is necessary to discuss the possible way forward in terms of resource utilization, investments, and how policy should be shaped to take this forward.

The European Union has long been driving industry transitions and climate action globally in through various initiatives in collaboration with other countries and partners. The Glasgow Breakthrough Agendas launched at COP26 have assumed greater significance. Through these commitments, the Breakthrough Agendas aim to foster new opportunities and innovation by accelerating the development and development of clean technologies and sustainable solutions. At Glasgow, India has showcased climate leadership with the announcement of new and bold climate commitments by 2030 and net-zero target by 2070.
India and EU both recognize the need for industry transitions and have undertaken several initiatives to accelerate the transition in India. India and Sweden have launched The Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) - launched by Sweden and India at the UN Climate Action Summit in New York in 2019 - commits to supporting governments and industries to co-produce stakeholder-led roadmaps to achieving low-carbon industry transformation. LeadIT Industry transition roadmaps address the industrial transition of sectoral value chains and provide actionable measures on technology, policy, public-private partnership, and finance to accelerate transition, also considering the industry sectors competitiveness and socioeconomic aspects of transition.

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The LeadIT Secretariat, hosted at the Stockholm Environment Institute, has obtained support from the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India to host workshops to initiate the process for preparing the sectoral roadmap for the cement and steel sector. The Ministry has approved the cooperation of the Secretariat with TERI as a local partner.

The WSDS thematic track titled, ‘Global Agenda for Industry Transitions – Relevance, Challenges and Opportunities for India’ focuses on importance and timeliness of multi-stakeholder initiatives - such as LeadIT and SPIPA - in driving global industry transitions and the challenges and opportunities they present within the Indian context. Discussions will hinge on addressing the various facets required to enable and accelerate industry transitions in India such as Public-Private Partnerships, Technology, Finance, Policy and Regulations.

Key questions

Questions to all panellists:

--- In context of India's commitment to achieve net-zero by 2070 at COP26 Glasgow, what are the key factors that need to be prioritized to enable and accelerate Indian industry’s transition towards a low or zero-carbon future?

Question for Dr. Arvind Bodhankar:

Question for Mr. Anirban Ghosh:

Question for Mr. Lokendraraj Singh:

Question for Dr. Gokce Mote:
Question for Mr. Dan Dorner:

India co-leads a workstream to promote industrial energy efficiency. The initiative is supported by Germany and also features LeadIT as a part of the coalition. Additionally, India is also set to host the Clean Energy Ministerial in 2023. How will IDDI promote effective deployment of low carbon technologies in energy-intensive sectors like iron and steel, cement and petrochemicals?