

Asia EDGE Highlights

October 2020



ASIA EDGE

Enhancing Development and Growth through Energy
The U.S. Government's Indo-Pacific Energy Initiative



Asia EDGE leverages the tools of ten government agencies to unleash the Indo-Pacific's energy potential

Launched in July 2018, in support of the Trump Administration's vision for the Indo-Pacific region, Asia Enhancing Development and Growth through Energy (EDGE) is a U.S. whole-of-government effort to grow sustainable and secure energy markets throughout the Indo-Pacific. Asia EDGE seeks to strengthen energy security by increasing energy access, diversification, and trade.

Asia EDGE supports a private sector-led growth model

Asia EDGE prioritizes partnerships with the private sector and leverages Energy Industry Working Groups in India, Indonesia, Korea, and Vietnam to open energy trade and investment opportunities across the Indo-Pacific. Asia EDGE has initiated seven Indo-Pacific bilateral framework agreements with Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam designed to catalyze private sector financing throughout the region.

Asia EDGE tailors its approach to respond to the needs of every country

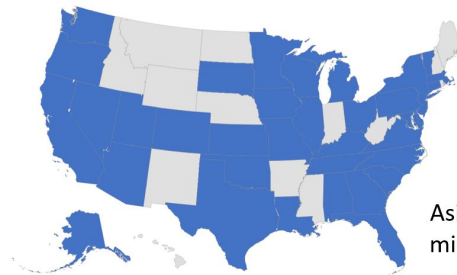
Representing more than 30 individual countries across a wide range of opportunities, the Indo-Pacific region is one of the most diverse in the world. Asia EDGE acknowledges this challenge and responds with tailored approaches by market and by sub-region.

Asia EDGE promotes regional energy collaboration to enhance energy trade and market integration

Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their support for the Japan-U.S.-Mekong Power Partnership (JUMPP), which builds national and regional power markets to mobilize investment and increase regional electricity trade.

Asia EDGE Partners

Asia EDGE partners with 250 U.S. private sector businesses across 39 U.S. states



Asia EDGE partners with multilateral development banks



Asia EDGE partners with like-minded foreign governments



Asia EDGE is making progress towards a free and open Indo-Pacific

- **Mobilizing private sector investment:** Asia EDGE has 59 active energy sector advocacy cases in the Indo-Pacific valued at \$185 billion, including an estimated \$140 billion in U.S. exports. Asia EDGE is also advancing an estimated \$57 billion in early stage energy projects in the Indo-Pacific region.

In Indonesia, Asia EDGE has mobilized approximately \$1.62 billion in renewable energy investments, which will provide access to clean energy for over 5.3 million Indonesians.

- **Expanding access to affordable, reliable energy:** Asia EDGE worked with five Vietnamese investors to build and grid-connect five high-quality, large-scale solar energy farms that serve as model projects. Amongst the first of their kind in Vietnam, these model projects used U.S. technologies and expertise, attracted \$259 million of mostly Vietnamese private capital, and now generate 263 MW of clean energy capable of powering over 150,000 homes.



Photo: U.S. Agency for International Development

Asia EDGE launched the Flexible Resources Initiative (FRI, or "free") under the U.S.-India Clean Energy Finance Task Force. FRI consists of an actionable pathway of cost-effective strategies to optimize India's electricity grid to include flexible resources, needed to support Prime Minister Modi's renewable energy ambitions.

- **Promoting regional energy security:** Asia EDGE supports South Asia in developing a competitive regional power market. By creating an enabling environment for power trade, transformative policy changes on cross-border power trade in India enabled Nepal and Bangladesh to use India's transmission lines as a pass-through for electricity exchange. This cooperation is critical in South Asia, where intra-regional economic activity is roughly five percent of South Asia's total trade and holds tremendous potential to spur growth.
- **Promoting U.S. exports:** Since Asia EDGE's launch in July 2018, the U.S. government has reported export success stories in the Indo-Pacific totaling approximately \$29.5 billion, which supported more than 142,000 U.S. jobs.
- **Removing trade barriers:** Through a Federal Register Notice, private sector roundtables, federal advisory committees, and the ongoing Asia EDGE Virtual Workshop Series, Asia EDGE is actively engaging the U.S. private sector to improve U.S. government understanding of private sector interests and policy needs. Asia EDGE has incorporated feedback into its commercial diplomacy engagements to promote free, fair, and reciprocal trading relationships. Asia EDGE has facilitated the participation of more than 600 individuals representing approximately 250 U.S. private sector member firms in Asia EDGE interagency activities.
- **Create open, efficient, rules-based, and transparent energy markets:** USAID provided advisory and analytical support to India to launch a real-time market for power trading in June 2020, paving the way for a more efficient, reliable electricity market and smooth integration of renewable energy.

Where can I learn more about Asia EDGE?

Visit <https://www.state.gov/asia-edge/> to learn more or contact AsiaEDGE@trade.gov.