

## Returns with a Real Impact: Renewable Energy Assets in Asian Emerging Economies

In this session, Nick will explore the changing dynamics of economic growth in Emerging & Developing Asia – looking at how increases in population and rapid urbanisation are boosting household and business demand for electricity. With per capita electricity consumption 11 times greater in the United States and almost 5 times greater in Europe, rising real incomes in the fastest growing region in the world will help significantly narrow this consumption gap.

Investment in sustainable energy infrastructure is necessary not just to meet domestic demand, but to drive the region's energy transition. More than half the world's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions come from Asia and its economy is collectively four times more carbon intensive than the largest countries in Europe.

As energy security and economic resilience inform political decisions, policy support for renewable energy is stronger than ever; reducing dependence on fossil fuel imports and supporting environmental improvement.

The investment opportunities are substantial and Nick will address these from the standpoint of a major experienced developer and impact investor in the region.



**Smita Nakhooda** is ThomasLloyd's Head of Impact & ESG. Smita's responsibilities include the ownership and oversight of all our impact and ESG processes so we hold ourselves to the highest corporate standards through transparent impact and sustainability reporting and disclosures. Prior to joining ThomasLloyd, Smita worked at the Asian Development Bank leading the Strategy, Policy, and Partnerships Department, which serves as a focal point on Sustainable Development Goals. Previously, she was a Senior Research Fellow at the Overseas Development Institute in London, and prior to that a Senior Associate at the World Resources Institute in Washington DC. An Indian national, she holds an M.Sc. in Environmental Policy and Regulation from the London School of Economics (UK), and a B.A. in Government and Environmental Studies from Dartmouth College.

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