



**Centre for International Trade and Development (CITD)
School of International Studies (SIS), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)**

cordially invites you to the research seminars on

“Green Bonds, Health and Climate Change”

on Monday, May 15, 2023, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

in the Seminar Room No. 344, Third Floor, School of International Studies II (New Building), Jawaharlal
Nehru University, New Delhi

Seminar Schedule

Time	Agenda
11:00 am – 11:05 am	<i>Welcome Remarks and Introduction to the Seminars</i> Prof. Meeta Keswani Mehra, Prof. of Economics, Centre for International Trade & Development, School of International Studies, JNU
11:05 am – 1:00 pm	<i>Session Chair</i> Prof. Amit Shovon Ray, Prof. of Economics, Centre for International Trade & Development, School of International Studies, JNU
11:05 am – 11:15 am	<i>Opening Remarks and Introduction to the Speakers</i> Prof. Amit Shovon Ray, Prof. of Economics, Centre for International Trade & Development, School of International Studies, JNU
11:15 – 11:45 am	<i>“Thematic Bonds: A Tool to Finance India’s Energy Transition”</i> Dr Gautam Jain, Senior Research Scholar, Center on Global Energy Policy, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University
11:45 am – 11:55 am	<i>Q&A/ Discussion</i>
11:55 am – 12:25 pm	<i>2022 Report of “The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change: Health at the Mercy of Fossil Fuels”</i> Dr Melissa Lott, Senior Research Scholar and Director of Research Center on Global Energy Policy, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University
12:25 pm – 12:35 pm	<i>Q&A/ Discussion</i>
12:35 pm – 12:55 pm	<i>Closing Remarks</i> Dr Kaushik Deb, Senior Research Scholar, Center on Global Energy Policy, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University and Professor Aparna Sawhney, Professor of Economics, Centre for International Trade & Development, School of International Studies, JNU
12:55 pm – 1:00 pm	<i>Vote of Thanks</i> Prof. Sushama Murty, Prof. of Economics, Centre for International Trade & Development, School of International Studies, JNU

Introduction to the Speakers and Abstracts of Presentations

<p style="text-align: center;">Dr Gautam Jain Senior Research Scholar, Center on Global Energy Policy, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University https://www.energypolicy.columbia.edu/dr-gautam-jain/</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dr Melissa Lott Senior Research Scholar and Director of Research Center on Global Energy Policy, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University https://www.energypolicy.columbia.edu/dr-melissa-c-lott/</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Thematic Bonds: A Tool to Finance India's Energy Transition</p> <p>A significant gap exists globally between the financing needed and the current level of spending to meet net-zero goals. The problem is particularly acute for emerging market and developing economies (EMDE), as they face higher spending on the energy transition as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) and are likely to be affected more severely by climate change than advanced economies. Thematic bonds that target specific investment themes, such as climate change mitigation and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), can help narrow the financing gap.</p> <p>The presentation will delve into these issues as it will summarize the findings and conclusions of the following notes:</p> <p>Thematic Bonds: Financing Net-Zero Transition in Emerging Market and Developing Economies</p> <p>India Integrates Green Bonds Into Its Decarbonization Strategy</p> <p>We will start with a discussion of the evolution of thematic bonds and show that even as the asset class has expanded rapidly in recent years, it has the potential to achieve significant further growth. While thematic bond issuances from EMDE have also increased, we will demonstrate that their share of the market remains small and go over some of the reasons behind this. Before going into our policy suggestions to governments and development banks interested in finding ways around these problems, we will show that green bonds on average trade with a premium in EMDE, which is relevant to the discussion. The presentation will conclude by going over India's debut sovereign green bond issuance earlier this year in the context of its green bond framework. We will show that there is room for the country's sovereign and corporate green bond market to grow and play a significant role in the financing of its energy transition.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change: Health at the Mercy of Fossil Fuels</p> <p>Climate change threatens to undermine the last 50 years of gains in global public health, intensifying heatwaves and extreme weather events, worsening flood and drought, altering the spread of infectious diseases, exacerbating poverty and mental ill-health, and undermining progress as regions work to improve quality of life in their communities. Responding to climate change – including by transitioning to cleaner and more sustainable energy systems -- can bring immense benefits for human health, for example with cleaner air and more livable cities. The Lancet Countdown: Tracking Progress on Health and Climate Change is a collaboration of over 120 leading experts from academic institutions and UN agencies across the globe, bringing together climate scientists, engineers, energy specialists, economists, political scientists, public health professionals and doctors to track progress toward realizing the health benefits of responding to climate change. Its findings are published annually in medical journal The Lancet ahead of the UN climate change negotiations.</p> <p>Dr. Melissa Lott has served as a lead author in the Countdown's Working Group 3 "Mitigation Actions and Health Co-Benefits" since the Countdown's inception in 2016, where she focuses on indicators related to energy systems, climate change, and public health.</p> <p>In this talk, Dr. Lott will discuss the findings included in the Countdown's analysis, with particular focus on the energy transition and air pollution co-benefits.</p>