**Ms. Kuppu Usha Rao**

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**Sector expertise/specialist skills**:

* Overall 25+ years of managing diverse climate change mitigation portfolio relating to energy access, renewable energy, energy efficiency, sustainable urban transport and waste subsectors in the South and South East Asian region
* Formulating strategies, institutional assessments, capacity building, policy reviews, and partnerships (including private sector) for innovations and operationalization
* Facilitating compliance and resource mobilization as a part of international commitments of governments (National Communication, NDCs) and contract negotiations (e.g., CDM, development loan agreements, technical assistance grants)
* Projects management cycle, technical assistance, quality assurance and evaluation of bilateral and multilateral donor funded projects and programmes

**Languages Fluency:** English, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, German (Basic)

**Work Experience:**

**United Nations Development Programme, Bureau of Policy and Programme Support, Bangkok Regional Hub**  16 August 2017 – continuing

Regional Technical Specialist – Energy, Infrastructure, Transport and Technology

Development and management of energy and climate change mitigation portfolio of UNDP’s vertical (GEF and GCF) and non-vertical funds through technical advisory, policy and implementation support to about 8 UNDP country offices (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka) in the Asia Pacific region. Providing quality assurance, troubleshooting and oversight to approx. 40 million of grant funding to several climate change mitigation projects and contributing as focal points to relevant Corporate initiatives and country programming.

**KfW Development Bank India Office**

Senior Sector Specialist – Energy and Transport,April 2013 to August 2017

Mobilizing partners and projects acquisition involving identification, assessments, appraisals, negotiations for loans and implementation support including monitoring progress with specific role in trouble shooting. Contributed to development of about EUR 1.3 billion projects pipeline in energy access, energy efficiency, renewable energy and urban transport that led to signing of project loans of EUR 850 million during 2015 -17 and advice on accompanying technical assistance/measures for institutional support and loan implementation.

**KFW Carbon Fund** Senior Project Manager – South AsiaApril 2010 to March 2013;

Project Manager -South Asia, October 2007 to March 2010; Sourcing of carbon credits from eligible Clean Development Mechanism projects worth 22 million CERs in the region for the purchasing programmes of KfW in partnerships with the EIB and EU members for Compliance buyers; developing Programme of Activities for LDCs and networking and negotiations for contracts signing.

**Cantor Fitzgerald Ltd - India Operations** October 2006-September 2007, Vice President Northern region; Setting up of Delhi Office andleading a five-member team to develop carbon business and marketing of carbon products, structuring deals and negotiating contracts and participating in tendering contracts for bidding end-to-end solutions

**UNDP, India,** Programme Analyst**,** September 2002 to October 2006**;** Full-time GEF Consultant**,** March 1999 to August 2002; Identification and development of a rolling GEF (Global Environment Facility) pipeline for India; managing GEF project cycle, technical assistance to partners in conceptualization and drafting of GEF proposals in climate change focal area, responding to project technical reviews by international and national experts prior to its approval, mobilizing resources for co-financing of the projects and technical backstopping for projects implementation

**Winrock International India Programme Officer,** December 1997 to February 1999; Implementation of USAID Renewable Energy Commercialization (RECOMM) Project

**IT Power India Pvt. Ltd. Consultant,** June to December 1997; Market research studies in energy financing, projects’ appraisal, monitoring and evaluation missions

**IJ Raju and Associates, Consultant** May 1993 to May 1997; Management consultancy assignments in the areas of renewable energy, environment and climate change and programme coordination

**Educational Qualifications** :

* Doctor of Philosophy, TERI University, New Delhi, 2011 on “Diffusion Modelling of Select Renewable Energy Technologies in India”
* Masters of Science, 1997. Birla Institute of Technology Science Pilani, - CGPA 9.00
* Masters of Business Administration, 1992. Magadh University - First Division
* Bachelor of Science (Honors in Physics), 1988. Delhi University - First Division