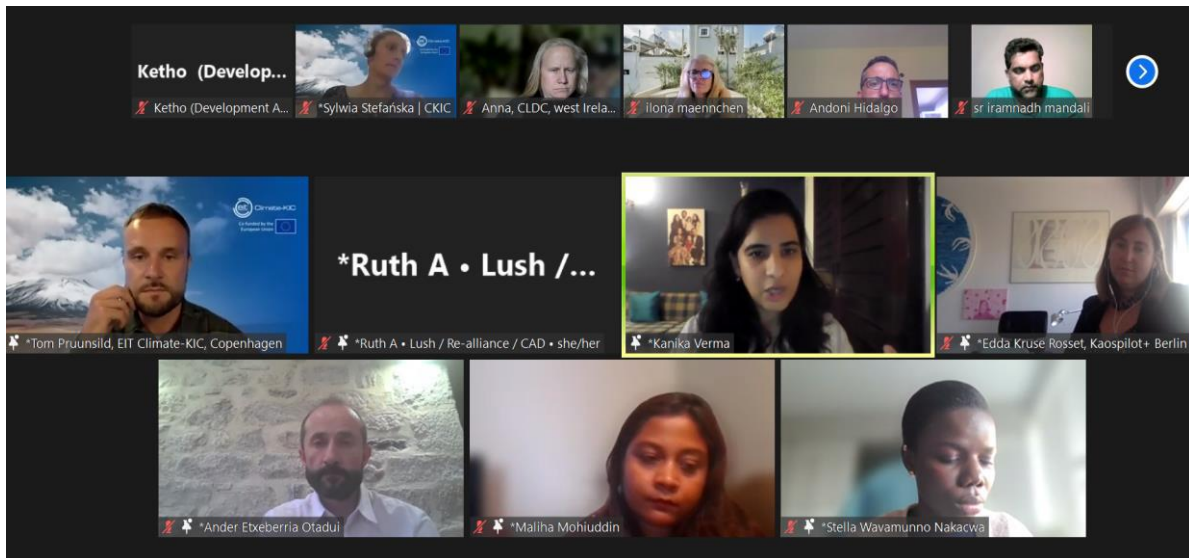


Open Dialogue webinar on Leadership - From a Movement of Leaders to a Leaderful Movement



Kanika Verma speaking at the session held online

Kanika Verma, Lead - Green and Inclusive Entrepreneurship, took part as a Speaker in the Deep Dive Open Dialogue hosted by Climate-KIC and SIDA as part of the Systems Innovation Learning Partnership (SILP) held via Zoom on September 6, 2023.

This dialogue brought together five experienced practitioners from different corners of the world to share their stories and learnings and ignite a dynamic conversation. Deep Dive’ open dialogues are a series of participatory conversations hosted by EIT Climate-KIC’s Systems Innovation Community of Practice and the Systems Innovation Learning Partnership, focusing on building leaderful communities and how communities can act as leaders. It gives participants the opportunity to share, explore, and learn from their individual and collective journeys in supporting systems transformation.

Besides Kanika Verma, other speakers included Ruth Andrade, founder of the Re-Alliance coalition; Maliha Mohiuddin and Stellamaris Nakacwa, alumni from YouthMappers, a global initiative that nurtures place-based youth leadership; Ander Etxeberria Otadui, Head of Cooperative Dissemination at Mondragon Corporation; and Edda Kruse Rosset, Lead of Kaospilot+ Berlin Leadership in Systemic Activism Programme. The focus of the session was on discussing innovative, systemic approaches to cultivate leadership capacities and collective leadership among women and youth.

Kanika highlighted the women-led safe mobility network in Mirzapur and how these women not only drive safe mobility but also became visible as changemakers and leaders within their community. She emphasised the importance of transitioning from individual-centric leadership to community-driven leadership rooted in solidarity. She explained how, instead of relying on top-down solutions, the Work4Progress programme has effectively enabled communities at the micro, meso, and macro levels, empowering them to actively co-create and lead solutions that directly benefit their lives. She also shared about radical collaboration, leveraging women-led solidarity networks and embedding successful ideas and approaches for entrepreneurship within community institutions so that the solutions are owned and sustained by the community itself and not by any organisation.

The dialogues offered an opportunity to connect with change-makers around the world to collectively evolve our approaches to leadership and shape a new type of leadership practice.