

FELs Booklet 2018

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Disclaimer

The Information and the views shared by the FEL-100 participants are their own and do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of their employers.

Participants (in alphabetical order by organisation)

All Participants

Ulrike Hinz	Strategy Development Manager	50Hertz Transmission GmbH	Germany
Fernando Senna	Founder and CEO	818 Energia Solar	Brazil
Ilona Valimaa	Environmental Expert	ÅF	Finland
Eduardo Cisneros	Business Development Manager Peru & Bolivia	Aggreko	Peru
Alena Fargere	Economist, Strategy & Marketing Team, Hydrogen Energy World Business Unit	Air Liquide	France
Umesh Bhutoria	Chief Operating Officer	Algo EnergyTech Ventures Private Limited	India
Olga Bogdanova	Supervisory Board Member	AS Augstsprieguma tīkls	Latvia
Yuri Cavero	Zonal Coordinator - Learning Communities Project	Barefoot College	Peru
Arwa Guesmi	Energy Innovation Fellow	CleanChoice Energy	Tunisia
David Munoz Andrade	CEO	Diurna Energy, Inc.	Mexico
Aesha Alnuaimi	Senior Researcher	Dubai Electricity and Water Authority	United Arab Emirates
James Carton	Principal Investigator	Dublin City University	Ireland
Adeola Adebiyi	Programme Officer	ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency	Cape Verde
Nuno Silva	Technology and Innovation Director	EFACEC Energy	Portugal
Salwa El- Samanoudy	Senior Performance Evaluation and Power Projects Follow up Engineer	Egyptian Electricity Holding Company	Egypt

Victor Andres Martinez	Planning and Energy Markets Administrator	Elektra Noreste, S. A.	Panama
Thiago Melo	Engineer	Eletrobras	Brazil
Bennet Tucker	Gas Market Manager	emsTradepoint	New Zealand
Antonio Erias Rodriguez	Market Analysis Coordinator	ENAGAS	Spain
Laura Lapeña Martínez	Global Regulatory Services	ENAGAS	Spain
Andrei Covatariu	Executive Assistant to C.E.O. & Country Manager	ENEL Romania	Romania
Nestor Sr. Asaa Ngwabebho	Head of the Gas, Renewable Energy & Lube Division	ENEO Cameroon SA	Cameroon
Philipp Irschik	Head of Strategy Unit	Energie-Steiermark	Austria
Cansu Karaca	Project Engineer	Energy and Environmental Systems Research Development - ENVIS	Turkey
Aanchal Kumar	Officer (environment)	Energy Efficiency Services Limited	India
Justinas Jouzaitis	Junior Researcher	Energy Security Research Centre	Lithuania
Lolita Carry	Chief of Staff to ENGIE Executive Vice-President	ENGIE	France
Efrat Sharir-Grebel	Senior Investment Analyst	Equinor Energy Ventures	Israel
Simas Gerdvila	Policy Officer	Euroheat	Belgium
Lucia Fuselli	Energy Specialist	European Investment Bank (EIB)	Luxembourg
Sarin Abado	Project Leader / Resident Twinning Adviser	European Union	Algeria

Celien Fitoussi	Senior Consultant	EY	Switzerland
Avesh Padayachee	Founder and CEO	Fibon Energy	South Africa
Malin Strand	Project Manager/Committee Secretary	Fossil Free Sweden	Sweden
Faraz Ahmad	Operations Director	GE Oil & Gas	United States of America
Sheila Elizabeth Bortey-Kharis	Operations Planning Engineer	Ghana Grid Company Limited	Ghana
Christopher Brown	Energy Trader	Goldman Sachs International	United Kingdom
Bartłomiej Kolodziejczyk	Chief Technology Officer	H2SG Energy Pte. Ltd.	Australia
Dev Tayal	Strategy Manager	Horizon Power	Australia
Learta Hollaj	Senior Researcher / Operations Manager	Institute for Development Policy	Kosovo
Mariana Aguilar	Business Development	Intemepro	Argentina
Piyush Verma	Senior Energy Market Analyst	International Energy Research Centre (IERC)	Ireland
Kokouvi N'Tsoukpoe	Assistant Professor	International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering	Burkina Faso
Imtenan Al-Mubarak	Senior Research Analyst	King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Centre (KAPSARC)	Saudi Arabia
Sheharyar Chughtai	Vice-President, Asia Pacific Project Finance	Korea Development Bank	Singapore
Yena Chae	Manager - Global Business Department	Korea Gas Safety Corporation	Korea (Rep. of)
Rosa Djangba	Assistant Projects Officer	Kumasi Institute of Technology Energy and Environment	Ghana

Urbain Nzotcha	Energy Consultant & Researcher	L3E - ENSP Yaoundé	Cameroon
Tharindu De Silva	Electrical Engineer	Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited	Sri Lanka
Alona Bolonina	Head of Environmental Management Unit	Latvenergo AS	Latvia
Rani Al Achkar	Senior Programmes Engineer – Secretary of the Board	Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation	Lebanon
Pule Segale	Site Manager	Mainstream Renewable Power	South Africa
Gavin Narainsamy	Team Leader for Energy Africa Portfolio	Marsh & McLennan Companies	United Kingdom
Buddhika Rajapakse	Trading Analytics Team Leader	Mercury NZ Ltd.	New Zealand
Alejo Da Bouza	Tariff and Commercial Planning Analyst	Metrogas	Argentina
Nura AlOtaibi	International Energy Policies Advisor	Ministry of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources	Saudi Arabia
Andrés Pica	Head of Office of Sustainable Heating and New Technologies	Ministry of Environment	Chile
Nolwazi Khumalo	Energy Officer	Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy	Swaziland
Loftur Thorarinsson	PhD Candidate	National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies in Japan	Japan
Salman Rehman	Deputy Director	NEPRA	Pakistan
Asekame Yadua	Reservoir Engineer	Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation	Nigeria
Seeng Sarah Boitumelo Mulwa	Energy and Environment Development Consultant	Now for Them Community Trust	Botswana
Florian Thaler	Oil Strategist	Och-Ziff Capital Management Group	United Kingdom

Andreas Formosa	Legal Adviser	Office of Gas and Electricity Markets	Cyprus
Faye McDermid	Manager-Project Assurance & Commercial Strategies	Ontario Power Generation	Canada
Francisco Imperatore	Marketing Specialist	Pan American energy LLC	Argentina
Aimé Moro	MSc student in Energy policy; responsible for strategic watch and development at green countries from 2014 to 2016	Panafrican University for Water and Energy Sciences	Algeria
Iva Brkic	Representative – Energy Expert	Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia to the UN in Geneva	Croatia
Sultan AlShaaibi	Process Engineer	Petroleum Development Oman	Oman
Wan Ching Low	Petroleum Geoscientist	Petronas	Malaysia
Olawole Oyewole	Team Leader	PLATGIC Limited	Nigeria
Daniel Gnoth	Senior Data Reporting Analyst	Powerco	New Zealand
Elizabeth Njoki Wanjiru	Project Assistant	Practical Action	Kenya
Anduvap Servet Akgun	Co-Founder & Managing Director	Pure Energy	Turkey
Keii Gi	Researcher	Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth	Japan
Denis Kovalev	L&D head	Rosatom	Russian Federation
Corinna Grajetzky	Manager, European Affairs	RWE AG	Germany
Charles Chibambo	Partner	S.I.T.E. Engineering	Malawi
Rizagul Abilkassimova	Senior Manager	Samruk Energy	Kazakhstan

Gordon (Do-Hyung) Lee	Investment Manager, Energy and Mineral Sector	Samtan	Korea (Rep. of)
Ahmed Hassan	ROV Pilot/Tec	Sapesco Offshore Services (S.O.S.)	Egypt
Uzair Baig	Investment Lead	Saudi Aramco	Canada
Mervin Azeta	Senior Completions engineer	Schlumberger Corporation	Nigeria
Nikola Tomasović	Energy consultant	Serbia Member Committee/WEC	Serbia
Deval Pandya	Data Scientist	Shell	United States of America
Gelem Lluberes Rincon	Portfolio Management - Energy Management Division	Siemens	Germany
Lois Gicheru	Founder and CEO	Solafrique	Kenya
Claudiu Butacu	Chairman of the Board	Solar Decathlon Bucharest	Romania
Yana Popkostova	Founder and Managing Director	The European Centre for Energy and Geopolitical Analysis	France
Kei Shimogori	Researcher	The Institute of Energy Economics, Japan	Japan
Reem Irany	Energy Engineer	The Lebanese Centre for Energy Conservation	Lebanon
Santiago Concha Mandujano	Lawyer	Transelec S.A.	Chile
Noah Asinge	Information and Partnerships Officer	Uganda National Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency	Uganda
Mekalia Paulos Akilu	Researcher	UNECA	Ethiopia
Rodrigo Alonso Suarez	Assistant Professor, Researcher, Consultant	Universidad de la República	Uruguay

Jan Daniel Kämmer	Sales Director Caribbean, Central America, Andean Countries	Vestas Wind Systems A/S	Mexico
Saara Kujala	Development Manager, IPP Development, South East Asia & Australia	Wartsila Development	Finland
Uros Simovic	Senior Consultant	West Monroe	Serbia
Richard E. Walsh	Program Lead, Clean Energy Solutions	WGL Holdings	United States of America
Prajwal Baral	Independent Consultant		Nepal

Participants biographies (in alphabetical order by organisation)



Hinz, Ulrike

Strategy Development Manager, 50Hertz Transmission GmbH

Germany

Organisation

50Hertz is responsible for the operation, maintenance, planning, and expansion of the 380/220 kilovolt transmission grid throughout the northern and eastern parts of Germany. Our grid covers an area larger than 109,360 km² and runs a length of approx. 10,000 km – the distance from Berlin to Rio de Janeiro. It is the technical backbone that reliably supplies power to around 18 million people – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Personal

Ulrike Hinz is currently working in Strategy Development at 50Hertz, the transmission system operator in the northern and eastern parts of Germany. 50Hertz provides the electricity supply to approximately 18 million people. Prior to 50Hertz, Ulrike worked as a Business Development Manager at ubitricity - an innovative company bringing together energy and electromobility. She also worked as a Research Assistant at Fraunhofer Institute for Open Communication Systems. Alongside her professional life, she is co-founder and board member at GreenBuzz Berlin e.V., a non-profit organisation promoting sustainability she is also a board member for The Hertie Energy and Environment Network and finally, a member of the Young Energy Professionals Germany. Ulrike acquired a B.A. and M.A. in International Business with a focus on strategic management and sustainability in Berlin, Melbourne and Prague and is about to complete an MBA in Energy Management at the Technical University of Berlin.



Senna, Fernando

Founder and CEO, 818 Energia Solar

Brazil

Organisation

8 minutes and 18 seconds is the average time that a photon, coming from the sun, takes to reach the Earth's surface. 818 [eight one eight] Solar Energy was born to transform the current scenario and perspectives of the energy sector in Brazil. A high social impact business, full of purpose and motivation, that understands the challenges of the sector in Brazil and drives them to a more sustainable future. Strong values and social integration policy is what drives our business, with the aim to improve the lives of Brazilian citizens.

Personal

Fernando is a Brazilian chemical engineer highly interested in innovative ideas that could result in a greener and more sustainable future. Back in 2009, he started his BSc in Chemical Engineering at Universidade Federal Fluminense, one of the most recognised universities in this field of study in Brazil. He started working early and became involved in various projects related to energy. After two years of working on a project about biodiesel production from microalgae, Fernando became a production engineering intern in the energy and utilities area of the largest petrochemical company in Latin America. Straight after graduating in 2014, Fernando refused some job offers in Brazil to pursue his Master's degree which emphasised Energy, Environment and Economics in the U.S. with a full sponsorship from the Brazilian government. His most influential and strongest project is a guide for the Brazilian government on how to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2050. After university, Fernando made the decision to go back to his home country and contribute to a better society. He ended up founding a social impact business focused on solar energy and improving the lives of thousands of people.



Valimaa, Ilona

Environmental Expert, ÅF

Finland

Organisation

ÅF is an engineering and design company within the fields of energy, industry and infrastructure. It creates sustainable solutions for the next generation through talented people and technology. It is based in Europe and its business and clients are found all over the world.

Personal

Ilona Välimaa is a 30-year-old environmental and energy professional from Finland. When she was finishing her Master's degree in biology whilst also diving for blue mussels in the Baltic Sea, she never thought that she would find herself in the world of energy production - she quickly found herself in the world of wind power, working with engineers. Since her first steps in the world of energy production, she has gained vast experience, varying from feasibility studies and EIAs to running wind power development projects. Currently, she is working in a large international consultancy company ÅF as an environmental expert for energy projects. She enjoys her work thoroughly as every day is a new positive challenge and chance to learn something new. Her special professional interests are offshore wind power because that lets her combine her passion for the sea with renewables and geoinformatics which is a practical tool with endless possibilities.



Cisneros, Eduardo

Business Development Manager Peru & Bolivia, Aggreko

Peru

Organisation

Aggreko is the global leader for temporary power, heating, cooling and dehumidification equipment. Aggreko is headquartered in Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom and it has operations all around the world. It is listed on the London Stock Exchange and is a constituent of the FTSE 250 Index.

Personal

Eduardo is a bilingual Peruvian Executive who currently holds the position of legal attorney and Business Development Manager for Aggreko in Peru & Bolivia. In addition to his work at Aggreko, he has also cofounded Cisnergia, a Peruvian company which provides renewables power solutions. His studies include a Postgraduate in Energy & Business Development by Aggreko PLC taken in different training centres around the world. He also has a specialisation in Markets and Tariff Regulation in Energy by the ESAN Business School. He is a Master of Finance graduate from the Universidad del Pacifico. He is an Electrical Mechanical Engineer from the University of Piura (UDEP). He has more than 10 years of experience in the energy sector in companies belonging to transnational groups such as Endesa, Semptra, AEI and Aggreko. He has participated in the development of energy project investments as a consultant because of his knowledge of the market and regulatory legislation in Peru & Bolivia. Due to his reputation and contribution to the sector, in 2014 he was Patron of the graduates of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the Engineering National University (UNI) in Lima - Peru. Finally, he is a member of the Colegio de Ingenieros del Peru (Nro. 109589).



Fargere, Alena

Economist, Strategy & Marketing team, Hydrogen Energy World Business Unit, Air Liquide

France

Organisation

Air Liquide is the world leader in gases, technologies and services for Industry and Health, Air Liquide is present in 80 countries with approximately 65,000 employees and serves more than 3.5 million customers and patients.

Personal

Passionate about solving energy transition challenges and climate change mitigation, Dr. Alena Fargère works as an Economist in the Hydrogen Energy World Business Unit at Air Liquide. She specialises in innovative financial modelling for low carbon infrastructure investments and strategy consulting for the hydrogen energy market to accelerate the energy transition. Alena started her career in the energy transition in 2012 through designing an appropriate policy framework to support Air Liquide top management in defining a strategy for the hydrogen mobility market. Her earlier experience in Private Equity and academic background in Energy, Policy, and mathematical modelling allow her to practice a systematic approach to tackling complex energy transition issues. Alena holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Ecole Polytechnique, France. She published numerous academic papers on dynamic carbon abatement cost, optimal deployment trajectories for green technologies, and policy framework for the zero-emission mobility. Alena also holds Master's degrees in Economics and Public Policy from Ecole Polytechnique and Sciences Po Paris, and in Applied Mathematics from Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology.



Bhutoria, Umesh

Chief Operating Officer, Algo EnergyTech Ventures Private Limited

India

Organisation

EnergyTech is an Energy Analytics company offering Insights-as-a-Service to industries and utilities.

Personal

Umesh has 10+ years of experience in the Energy Efficiency/Productivity and Carbon Markets. He is a thought leader in the use of Energy Data Analytics to foster Energy Productivity in SMEs and MSMEs. His publications on Energy Analytics have more than 40000 views on SlideShare. Umesh Bhutoria has worked with clients such as The World Bank Group, IFC, Sweden Textile Water Initiative, Tata Motors, TERI, NALCO, Aditya Birla Group, SIDBI, Mardec and, Welspun across India, Bangladesh and Malaysia. He is passionate about leveraging data and technology to enable businesses to double energy productivity and to enable economies to easily move into the energy transition process.



Bogdanova, Olga

Supervisory Board Member, AS Augstsprieguma tīkls

Latvia

Organisation

AS Augstsprieguma tīkls (AST) is an independent transmission system operator of Latvia providing electric power transmission network services and ensuring the balancing and stability of the network with voltages of and above 110kV. In 2017 AST acquired shares of the gas transmission and underground gas storage system operator of Latvia. The shareholder of AST is the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Latvia.

Personal

Olga Bogdanova is a Member of the Supervisory board of Power Transmission System Operator of Latvia, which acquired shares of the Latvian gas transmission and storage system operator in 2017. Since 2005, Olga has been working within the governmental sector. From 2013 to 2018, she took positions of Head of Energy Market and Infrastructure Unit, Director of Energy Market and Infrastructure Department and Acting Deputy State Secretary for Energy. Her field of responsibilities covered electricity, gas and oil policy on a national and regional scale. During the Latvian presidency in the EU Council, she was in charge of the unit responsible for the BEMIP reform and the EU Energy Union related issues. Olga Bogdanova also has a PhD in Economics. She is an Associate Professor at Riga Technical University. Within the last 3 years, she developed two monographs and four scientific publications. In 2016, Dr. Bogdanova participated in US State Department International Visitor Leadership Program “Energy Security and Sustainability”. She received several high-level acknowledgements for her achievements in the energy field from the Prime Minister, Minister for Energy, Latvian Academy of Science and, others.



Cavello, Yuri

Zonal Coordinator - Learning Communities Project, Barefoot College

Peru

Organisation

Barefoot College is the only College in India built by the poor and managed by the rural poor who earn less than \$ 1/day. Almost the only College left in India that respects and practices the work style and life style of Mahatma Gandhi. It is a College where the teacher is the learner and the learner the teacher.

Personal

Yuri is a professional with 11 years of experience, executing development social projects for the public and private sector. He operates within the mining, hydrocarbons and energy sectors. Yuri is a consultant on issues of environmental and social assessment and Corporate Responsibility with a focus on shared value between communities and companies. He also dedicates part of his time to duties such as Social Inclusion Ambassador, recognized by the Embassy of United States in Perú. This work has a focus on indigenous people and women empowerment. Finally, Yuri is working in Barefoot College, ranked as one of the 15 best NGOs in the world, to create awareness about the solar energy as a development tool in rural communities.



Guesmi, Arwa

Energy Innovation Fellow, CleanChoice Energy

Tunisia

Organisation

CleanChoice Energy is the largest privately held renewable energy supplier in the United States, providing 100% renewable energy to over 104,000 residential and commercial customers. An award-winning company, CleanChoice Energy has been selected by Deloitte's Technology Fast 500, as the second fastest growing energy tech company in North America, to the Inc. 500, and is a four-time Best for the World awardee. We received a \$2.5 million SunShot award from the U.S. Department of Energy for our technology innovation to scale solar adoption by reducing the cost of growing consumer demand.

Personal

Arwa is a professional engineer with more than five years of experience in the energy industry, working in Oil and Gas and Clean Energy. Arwa earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and worked as a technical advisor and consultant for national companies in Tunisia and international companies in France and the US. She worked on major projects in Eastern Europe, Asia and South Tunisia. Arwa has intensive experience in engineering and conceptual design across all boards of disciplines, including Chemical engineering and industrial instrumentation. She has led teams of senior designers and engineers and coordinated activities between multiple teams of suppliers, supervisors and end-users. Arwa has been awarded as an outstanding emerging female leader in STEM with the TechWomen program, a social change leader and activist from the Swedish Institute in Stockholm and the Atlas Corps fellowship for young professional social impact leaders. Arwa is working with CleanChoice Energy as their Energy innovation fellow, contributing to the mission of the in-house innovation labs by deploying her expertise and providing technical assistance for product innovation and business development.



Munoz Andrade, David

CEO, Diurna Energy, Inc.

Mexico

Organisation

Diurna Energy is a California based company that provides commercial and industrial power consumers in Mexico with customized support, intelligence and tools to know, choose and manage their energy needs in a competitive environment.

Personal

David Muñoz Andrade is the Founder and CEO of Diurna Energy, a company providing intelligence and tools for Commercial and Industrial energy consumers in Mexico, helping them select energy provider and manage their billing in a competitive market. Prior to this, as Director of Development Mexico for Buenavista Renewables (2014 - 2017), he developed 180 MW of utility-scale solar in Chihuahua Mexico, taking the Los Santos Solar I power plant from concept to commercial operations. David also has experience in the public sector as Founder and General Director of the Baja California Energy Commission (2008 – 2013). There he collaborated with several international agencies, put together a diverse and multidisciplinary planning committee and enacted public policy related to energy efficiency and renewable energy. He also developed Mexico's first state government owned and operated wind farm, as well as a diverse portfolio of renewable energy projects. David holds a BSc degree in Economics from the University of Essex, a Certificate in Business Administration from the University of Southern California and a Certificate in Wind Energy from the University of California Davis.



Alnuaimi, Aesha

Senior Researcher, Dubai Electricity and Water Authority

United Arab Emirates

Organisation

DEWA is ranked as one of the best utilities in the world, providing electricity and water services to over 757,000 satisfied customers in Dubai. To achieve its vision to become a sustainable innovative world-class utility, DEWA adopts the latest smart technologies and solutions. It actively contributes to the Smart Dubai initiative to transform Dubai into the smartest city in the world.

Personal

Dr. Aesha Alnuaimi has over 6 years' experience in Masdar Institute of Science and technology as a research engineer in the field of Photovoltaics solar cells. Currently, Dr. Aesha Alnuaimi works as senior Researcher at Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) R&D centre in Muhammad Bin Rashid Solar Park where she is exploring the performance and reliability of silicon and thin film PV module technologies in desert climatic conditions. Dr. Alnuaimi received her MSc and PhD in Microsystem Engineering from Masdar Institute of Science and technology in 2013 and 2017. During her studies, she worked as teaching assistant in the electrical engineering department. Dr. Aesha Alnuaimi was awarded the young Emirati researcher prize in 2013 by the national research foundation for her research on thin film crystalline silicon photovoltaics solar cells. In addition, Dr. Aesha Alnuaimi received Shaikh Rashed award for scientific outstanding and UAE student award in 2017 for her PhD thesis on graphene/silicon Schottky junction solar cells. She has co-authored more than 20 international conference proceedings and peer-reviewed scientific journal papers.



Carton, James

Principal Investigator, Dublin City University

Ireland

Organisation

Dublin City University (DCU) has a long tradition of materials research and is committed to building out a critical mass of expertise and research in green, clean technologies and smart energy materials. The School of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering offers expertise coupled with state of the art laboratories with dedicated technicians. Also attractive are the strong multi-disciplinary within DCU and local and global industrial collaborations. Dublin City University (DCU) under the direction of Dr Carton is at the forefront of Hydrogen technology development in Ireland, through published papers and patents and successive project funding rounds, enabling a team of highly experienced researchers to propel hydrogen technology into the market.

Personal

Dr Carton is director of an energy consulting company, is Chief Technical Officer of a new energy storage start-up entity, and is the Principal Investigator for Hydrogen & Fuel Cell technology development at Dublin City University (DCU), Ireland. With more than a decade of knowledge in energy systems research, design, development, marketing and integration, Dr Carton has gained much international industrial experience from working in NASA, ESA (European Space Agency) & EnBio Ltd. Dr Carton is a member of the advisory board for the annual international conference “Sustainable Energy & Environmental Protection” (SEEP) showcasing clean forms of energy generation and is an invited speaker in public, industry and academic workshops, such as “Engineers Ireland” to promote the development of clean energy technologies for communities. Dr Carton holds an honours degree in Manufacturing Engineering from Bolton St. Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland, and completed his Ph.D. research in Dublin City University, Ireland, focussing on the research, design and development of renewable energy technologies including hydrogen production methods and fuel cells.



Adebiyi, Adeola

Programme Officer, ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

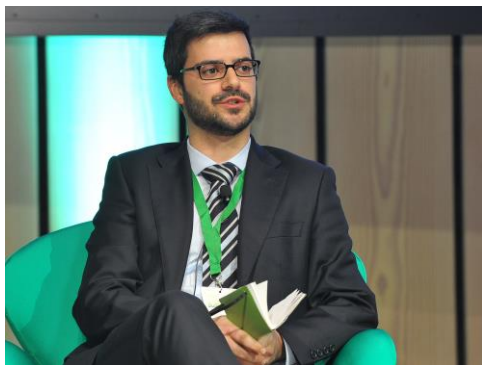
Cape Verde

Organisation

The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) is a specialized ECOWAS agency with a public mandate to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency markets. It acts as an independent body but within the legal, administrative and financial framework of ECOWAS rules and regulations. The ECREEE Secretariat is based in Praia, Cape Verde, and has established a network of NFIs among all ECOWAS Member States. The overall objective of ECREEE is to contribute to the sustainable economic, social and environmental development of West Africa by improving access to modern, reliable and affordable energy services, energy security and reduction of energy related externalities (GHG, local pollution).

Personal

Adeola Adebiyi is an energy and environmental management professional and is presently programme officer at the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE). She holds a master's degree in Environmental and Energy management from the University of Twente, Netherlands and has acquired almost 7 years' experience working at both ends of the current energy spectrum (Conventional and Clean Energy). Since joining ECREEE in 2014, she has worked on many regional energy programmes but currently leads the centres climate change activities including acting as the designated contact point for both the United Nations Framework convention on climate change (UNFCCC) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Her overall responsibilities encompass policy implementation, capacity building, knowledge development and awareness creation, stakeholder engagement, fund mobilisation and project implementation.



Silva, Nuno

Technology and Innovation Director, EFACEC Energy

Portugal

Organisation

A Portuguese company with a strong exporter profile and geographical footprint in more than 65 countries, Efacec works in the development of infrastructures for important sectors which affect economic activity – Power Energy, Environment & Industry and Mobility & Transportation. The company's portfolio includes transformers, electrical equipment, automation and servicing, turnkey solutions for contracting sectors of Energy, Environment & Industry and, Transportation as well as a full range of charging solutions for electric vehicles. Particularly focused on the development of products and systems with highly added value for the green economy, Efacec develops activities in the field of renewable energy and smart cities, infrastructure and charging management systems of electric vehicles and finally, solutions for smart grids, including smart meters, management systems for public lighting and energy remote monitoring, among others.

Personal

Nuno Silva graduated from the University of Porto in 2003 and finished his PhD in Electrical Engineering in the Control and Power Group, Imperial College London in 2009. He is currently the Technology and Innovation Director of the Efacec Group where he is designing the company's technological strategy and promoting synergies between 8 different business units and external stakeholders. He manages several national and international multi-million-euro innovation initiatives and also manages R&D projects in several fields. Innovation management, Distributed Energy Resources, Smart Grids, Storage, Energy Systems economics, Asset management, electric mobility and Digitalisation of Energy Systems are among his areas of activity. He is also the Director of the Technology School of the Efacec Academy, the corporate University of Efacec Group. He is a Senior Member of IEEE as well as the Power Engineering Society (PES) of IEEE and he has served at the Technical Committees of several international conferences. He now registers over 70 publications in peer-reviewed journals and conferences. He teaches at 2 different Universities (Engineering Faculty and Business School) and has been supervising several MSc and PhD thesis. He is a founding partner of an ICT start-up in Germany and a Mentor at several start-ups acceleration associations as well as the manager of a 20Meur venture capital on behalf of Efacec.



El-Samanoudy, Salwa

Senior Performance Evaluation and Power Projects Follow up Engineer,
Egyptian Electricity Holding Company

Egypt

Organisation

Egyptian Electricity Holding Company “EEHC” and its subsidiaries - six companies for electricity production, nine companies for electricity distribution and one company for electricity transmission - are seeking to serve the community by achieving the concept of national responsibility in all services and activities related to electricity for a brighter future. EEHC and its affiliated companies work hard to develop energy projects to meet the fast-growing electricity demand taking into consideration the optimum operation of different electrical system components, power plants and transmission and distribution networks.

Personal

Salwa El-Samanoudy graduated from Ain Shams University in Engineering, in June 2009. In 2014, she achieved a Master's of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering at the Ain Shams University, Egypt. Her Master's dissertation was titled “Investigation of Wind Energy Utilization on Egyptian Electrical Network”. She then attended the Renewables Academy's (RENAC) Technical Seminar in April 2014, in Berlin, Germany, where she was awarded a "Renewable Energy Grid Manager" certificate. She is now undertaking a PhD in Electrical Engineering at the Al Azhar University. Her PhD Thesis focuses on the effects of hybrid resources of renewables on the electrical grid and how to use the efficient mix of generation in an appropriate way to ensure a reliable and stable system. Salwa prepared a report in cooperation with the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, Ain Shams University and the Egyptian Electricity Transmission Company about the Egyptian Electrical Grid state with a high penetration level of wind energy. She published a scientific paper at MEPCON 2014 and ICEENG 2016 conferences titled “Voltage Stability Investigation of the Egyptian Grid with High Penetration Level of Wind Energy”.



Martinez, Victor Andres

Planning and Energy Markets Administrator, Elektra Noreste, S. A.

Panama

Organisation

ENSA | Grupo EPM is the electrical distribution and retail company for the eastern side of Panama. We are constantly evolving and partnering with the aim of offering innovative solutions for our customers, including technology, renewable energy, efficiency, Smart Grid, public and private EPC and, O&M services and electric mobility.

Personal

Victor Andres Martinez is an Electromechanical Engineer from the Technological University of Panama, with additional experience in Electric Markets, Business Administration and Strategic Management. His specialisation in the last three years has been in the renewable energy, smart grid and electric markets sector. He has worked in grid planning, strategic management, business development, smart grid in the local electric utility and, in energy generation in the Panama Canal. He has engaged himself in energy efficiency, demand response, rural electrification and, electric mobility projects, working closely with Panama's public administration and regulation agencies. Victor played a key role in Panama's first Advanced Demand Side Management (ADSM) project, covering both technical and administrative, as well as financial and regulatory aspects. He also participated in developing feasible proposals for supplying renewable energy to rural and off-grid communities in Latin America, alongside the New York University of Law and Solar City. Nowadays, Victor is seeking to consolidate his knowledge and experience in the energy industry, as well as venturing into innovation for the sector.



Melo, Thiago

Engineer, Eletrobras

Brazil

Organisation

Eletrobras invests in clean, renewable energy with solid experience in large hydro projects and a unique transmission system. Eletrobras is Latin America's largest electric power company and one of the largest in the world controlling 12 subsidiaries. The organisation holds 50% of Itaipu Binacional, the second biggest hydroelectric power plant in the world, managed in partnership with Paraguay. The installed capacity of Eletrobras companies reaches 34% of Brazil's installed capacity with the transmission lines representing 49% of the total nationwide.

Personal

Since 2010 Thiago has been working at the International Business Superintendence of Eletrobras, which focuses on new business development in Latin America, Africa and North America. This includes greenfield and brownfield renewable energy generation and transmission projects, renewable energy company's acquisitions and structuring of new technologies strategic partnerships. Simultaneously, Thiago has been in two matrix managed working groups during the last 3 years: one related to the restructuring of Eletrobras business model at Strategic Superintendence, and the other related to Financial Reports at Investor Relations Department. Thiago's education includes: Undergraduate Degree in Civil Engineer at Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ). Studying a Master's in Business Administration at COPPEAD/UFRJ since Feb/2017 up to Dec/2018. Graduate Course in Finance at COPPEAD/UFRJ (360h). Graduate Course in Economic Analysis of Latin America Electric Energy Integration Certificate Program at Economic Institute/UFRJ (480h). Wind Energy Certificate Program at Infra-Structure Brazilian Association ABDIB (270h).



Tucker, Bennet

Gas Market Manager, emsTradepoint

New Zealand

Organisation

emsTradepoint is a commodity exchange designed to provide anonymity, transparent pricing and transactional certainty to physical energy markets. We enable the trading of physical natural gas for producers, wholesalers, industrial users and wider industry participants. By facilitating efficient trading of gas for today, and for forward delivery, our intent is to develop the market into a sustainable and integral part of the natural gas supply chain. emsTradepoint was established in 2013 by Transpower New Zealand Limited and was made a wholly-owned subsidiary - emsTradepoint Limited - in 2015.

Personal

Bennet is an energy professional with over 10 years of experience in the energy industry. Bennet has held a broad range of positions within the sector, including Strategic Analyst at Meridian Energy, Senior Security of Supply Analyst in the System Operations division of Transpower and Gas Market Manager at emsTradepoint. During his time in the energy sector, Bennet has developed a keen understanding of how the sector works from end to end, with a special focus on providing expert advice on strategic issues such as long-term security of supply and energy market design. Bennet has worked on a number of high profile projects including, but not limited to, the System Operator's (Transpower) response to thermal generator decommissioning (November 2015) and the development of the natural gas spot market (2016/17). Bennet has a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) from the University of Canterbury and is currently studying towards a Master of Business Administration at Victoria, University of Wellington.



Rodriguez, Antonio Elias

Market Analysis Coordinator, ENAGAS

Spain

Organisation

Enagás is internationally recognised in the development and maintenance of gas infrastructures and in the operation and management of complex gas networks. It is certified as an independent TSO by the European Union and operates in eight countries.

Personal

Antonio Elias Rodríguez works as a Market Analysis Coordinator at the Strategy Division in Enagás, a Spanish gas infrastructure operator for transmission, LNG regasification and underground storage. Until November 2017 he worked as senior analyst at the Energy Policies & Climate Change Division (Chairman's Area), in Iberdrola, specialising in European Energy Policy and Climate Change Negotiations. He was involved in the follow up of the international negotiations on climate change and its policy implications for the energy sector, analysing the main climate policy developments in Iberdrola's jurisdictions (USA, UK, Mexico, Brazil, and Spain). He has also collaborated with several think tanks and business coalitions focused on climate action. Until the end of 2014, he was an analyst in Regulatory Affairs, working mainly on energy taxation and prospective and regulatory analysis. He has also co-authored several publications on climate change negotiations, energy taxation, universal access, renewable energy, and climate change mitigation. Since May 2016, he is member of the World Energy Council's Future Energy Leaders and has held the role of Climate Change Taskforce leader. The Future Energy Leader's Programme allows the energy leaders of tomorrow to debate and discuss the key goals of the Council and to network with colleagues around the world. Antonio holds a BSc Degree in Economics from the University of A Coruña, MSc in Energy Business and he is currently working on his PhD in Economic Analysis and Business Strategy focusing on electricity demand in Spain. Antonio collaborates with Fundación Fomento Mexicano para el Desarrollo Sustentable, A.C., a non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the living conditions of sectors in Mexico and developing countries with the highest vulnerability index.



Lapeña Martínez, Laura

Global Regulatory Services, ENAGAS

Spain

Organisation

Enagás is internationally recognised in the development and maintenance of gas infrastructures and in the operation and management of complex gas networks. It is certified as an independent TSO by the European Union and operates in eight countries.

Personal

With seven years of experience in the energy sector, Laura is currently working for Enagás, a Spanish gas infrastructure operator for transmission, LNG regasification and underground storage. She is currently involved in regulatory development, dealing with analysis of the regulatory framework at the national and international level. Laura is directly participating in the expansion process of the company, taking an active part in the analysis and the due diligence for the acquisition of existing and projected gas infrastructures in Spain and abroad in different countries (Chile, Mexico, Peru, and Sweden, among others). In addition, Laura is frequently participating in national and international working groups and for organisations related to the natural gas industry. She has also attended a wide variety of additional energy congresses and fora. Laura has a degree in Mining Engineering, followed by a Masters in Renewable Energy. In addition, she successfully completed an Expert Course on Energy Management and other courses mainly related to the natural gas business and the electricity sector.



Covatariu, Andrei

Executive Assistant to C.E.O. & Country Manager, ENEL Romania

Romania

Organisation

Active on the Romanian market since 2005, Enel is currently the country's largest private investor in energy, with operations in power distribution and supply as well as renewable energy production. Enel is developing an investment program aimed at securing a proper service for end users, improving the quality and security of the network while also complying with Enel's environmental standards.

Personal

Andrei Covatariu is currently the Digital Manager and Executive Assistant to C.E.O. and Country Manager, at Enel Romania. Previously, he has worked as a Market Analyst and Energy Acquisition Expert and as a Public Affairs Specialist at Enel. A member of FEL Romania since 2014, Andrei is now Vice President of the organisation, Member of the Board and Head of International Cooperation. For his activity within the Romanian National Committee, he has been awarded with the Organisation's Medal for promoting the Association domestically and abroad. Andrei is also a Senior Research Associate at Energy Policy Group (energy think tank in Romania), where he is also involved in international projects, and a Contributing Analyst for the US-based consultancy group Wikistrat (first and most important crowd sourced consultancy) for energy matters. An Aspen Alumnus 2017, Andrei's academic background has an extensive history. He has a Bachelors and a Master's degree in Nuclear Engineering, a Master's degree in Business Management and he is now a PhD student in the management of the Romanian Energy System, in the context of European Policies.



Asaa Ngwabebho, Nestor Sr.

Head of the Gas, Renewable Energy & Lube Division, ENEO Cameroon SA

Cameroon

Organisation

Eneo Cameroon S.A. is the historical electricity operator in Cameroon, with 56% shares owned by Actis Group and 44% by the State of Cameroon. The company operates a diverse portfolio of generation, transmission and distribution facilities to serve its 1,000,000 customers. The 3,700-people workforce is strongly committed to covering the steadily increasing electricity demand by supplying reliable and safe energy.

Personal

Mr Nestor Asaa Ngwabebho is a Biochemical engineering graduate and has over 8 years experience in the development of clean energy technologies (LNG, natural gas, Solar PVs), as well as exploration and exploitation of fossil fuels. At Eneo Cameroon, he is currently monitoring the development of over 35MW of Solar PVs at Djoum - Maroua and Guider. At Gaz Du Cameroun, he served as Gas Operator. Together with other experts and consultants, he constructed and commissioned the first onshore gas processing plant in sub-Saharan Africa (Logbaba Gas Field Development project). At Pfeiffer, Cameroon, he worked as an engineering consultant, providing an evaluation of the financial viability of the power and utility projects in the public sector. He has recently been contacted to serve as a Guidepoint Global consultant for West Africa, providing consultancy services to foreign Investors on the Oil & Gas market in Cameroon and its environ. He is also the 2018-2020 practice fellow of the African Climate Change Leadership Programme (AFRICLP).



Irschik, Philipp

Head of Strategy Unit, Energie-Steiermark

Austria

Organisation

Energie-Control Austria (E-Control) is the Austrian regulatory authority for the electricity and gas markets. It was set up by the Austrian legislator in 2001 and is primarily tasked with the monitoring of competition and the drawing up of proposals for the regulatory framework of a properly functioning market. In the framework of the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER) and the Agency for Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER), E-Control, together with energy regulators of other European Member States, is contributing to the development of a single European energy market.

Personal

Philipp Irschik is Head of Strategy at Energie Steiermark, one of Austria's major power companies and distribution grid operators. He is responsible for formulating, planning, delivering and, executing the corporate strategy of the company. Before his position at Energie Steiermark, he headed the executive office at the Austrian National Regulatory Authority Energie-Control Austria (E-Control) where he advised and supported the Board on strategic and regulatory issues. On a European level, he led the task force on cybersecurity at the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER) and advised the European Commission (DG ENER) on energy security related issues. Philipp holds an international Master's degree in International Business Administration from Vienna University of Economics and Business, Lancaster Management School and the Universitat de València. In addition, he possesses a Master's degree in International Management from ESADE Business School in Barcelona. He is currently obtaining a Master's degree in European Business Law from the Vienna University of Economics and Business.



Simovic, Uros

Senior Consultant, West Monroe

Serbia

Organisation

West Monroe is a national business and technology consulting firm that partners with dynamic organizations to re-imagine, build, and operate their businesses at peak performance. The company provides professional consulting services to businesses across many industries including Banking & Credit Unions, Capital Markets, Private Equity, Insurance, Healthcare, Life Sciences, Energy & Utilities, Retail, Manufacturing & Distribution, and Technology. Our team of more than 950 professionals is comprised of an uncommon blend of business consultants and deep technologists. This unique combination of expertise enables us to design, develop, implement, and run strategic business and technology solutions that yield a dramatic commercial impact on our clients' profitability and performance.

Personal

Uros Simovic is currently an Senior Consultant in the Energy and Utilities practice at West Monroe Partners. He has been working in the energy industry over four years and possesses diverse project and operations experiences. Recently, Uros helped a large North-Eastern IOU develop and implement a methodology to evaluate non-wire alternatives (NWAs) to traditional distribution system upgrade projects. Used utility information and demographics to determine suitability of areas to NWA solutions and prepared portions of the RFP package provided to solution providers to use in developing their proposals. Uros evaluated and ranked proposals and facilitated negotiations with the bidders. He developed a Benefit-Cost Analysis tool used to seamlessly compare different NWA technologies across separate locations. Uros also provided support on ongoing New York Public Service Commission's orders.

Previously, Uros was a Project Engineer at Energoprojekt Entel Plc. In Doha, Qatar where he worked closely with utilities, government agencies and large developers on power generation and transmission projects. Through facilitating collaboration across departments and countries, Uros helped prepare and evaluate tenders, assisted in project management, conducted techno-economic evaluation of transmission projects and formulated feasibility studies of various technologies.

Uros has a Bachelors in Electrical Engineering from McGill University with a concentration in Power Engineering and a Masters in Energy Science, Technology and Policy from Carnegie Mellon University. He is Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certified and is a member of the Future Energy Leader community within the World Energy Council.



Karaca, Cansu

Project Engineer, Energy and Environmental Systems Research
Development - ENVIS

Turkey

Organisation

ENVIS Environment and Energy Systems Research Development Ltd., is an R&D company established in 2008 at the university-industry-technocity interface contained within ITU Arı Technocity. The aim was to develop and put into practice R&D projects that provide solutions in the areas of environment and energy and to realise/materialise technological ideas by providing expert views, know-how and expertise from the academy.

Personal

Cansu has been working as a project engineer at ENVIS (Energy and Environmental Systems Research Development Ltd.) for 3 years. She is undertaking duties focusing on diverse spectrum of environmental challenges as well as energy issues. She specialised in energy recovery from biomass, environmental inventory based on energy, water and carbon footprint in diverse manufacturing companies. Cansu attended a training program on wind farm development and project management. She is also certified in Life Cycle Assessment and is involved in many projects. Cansu attended the Youth Program of the Turkish National Committee of the World Energy Council in 2014. She was a moderator of one of the working groups in 7th Youth and Energy Workshop. In addition, she is a member of the Turkish Energy Foundation, Chamber of Environmental Engineers. Cansu holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Engineering DDP Program for which she gained a dual diploma from Istanbul Technical University and University of Buffalo, State University of New York. She is currently completing her Master's degree in energy recovery from sewage sludge. She was invited to the 8th International Conference on Sustainable Energy and Environmental Protection, Edinburg, Scotland for an oral presentation.



Kumar, Aanchal

Officer (environment), Energy Efficiency Services Limited

India

Organisation

Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) is an Energy Service Company (ESCO) which enable consumers, industries and governments to effectively manage their energy needs through efficient technologies. EESL is implementing the world's largest non-subsidised energy efficiency portfolio across lighting, buildings, agriculture, etc., at a scale, which no organisation has been able to achieve.

Personal

Ms Aanchal Kumar is an Environment Officer at Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL). She has pursued a Masters in Economics with a specialisation in Environment and Natural Resources from TERI School of Advanced Studies. At EESL, she has been a key team member of the Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) programme launched by the Honourable Prime Minister of India in January 2015, with the aim to promote high quality LED lighting in the domestic sector. She has worked on research studies in collaboration with the World Resource Institute (WRI), UNFCCC, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) and, AEEE. She is a part of the International Secretariat at EESL and has worked on due diligence studies across energy conservation measures like lighting, energy storage and combined heat and power. She is presently working on creating a Sustainable Development Unit at EESL. Her current role also entails resource mobilisation through international funding from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, KfW, AFD etc. She is passionate about achieving more with fewer resources and creating the right balance between fulfilment and sustainability.



Jouzaitis, Justinas

Junior Researcher, Energy Security Research Centre

Lithuania

Organisation

Established in 2009, Energy Security Research Centre is an independent academic institution exclusively focused on energy security developments in the Baltic States and Europe. It perceives energy security as a multidimensional concept and employs experts with diverse backgrounds in energy science, applied mathematics, information technologies and, finally political and social science. In 2015, the Centre has prepared a chapter on energy security for the upcoming National Energy Strategy of the Republic of Lithuania.

Personal

Justinas Juozaitis is a PhD candidate in Political Science at Vytautas Magnus University with four years of experience in dealing with energy-related issues. Justinas works as an assistant lecturer at the Faculty of Diplomacy and Political Science and as a junior researcher at the Energy Security Research Centre, where he is involved in important research activities. Justinas is an editor of 'Lithuanian Energy Security: Annual Review', in which Lithuanian energy security level is measured by calculating more than 60 technological, socio-political and economic indicators. Justinas is a co-author of a methodology designed for the assessment of political vulnerabilities on the security of energy supply. He is a part of a working group that is responsible for suggesting energy policy options for the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Lithuania. Justinas enjoys intellectual debates and devotes a substantial amount of time to both participation and organisation of scientific conferences. Prior to the pursuit of an academic career, Justinas worked as a manager at 'Thermal Energy Systems'. Justinas holds a Master's degree in International Relations, and he speaks English, German and Russian, and has basic knowledge of French.



Carry, Lolita

Chief of Staff to ENGIE Executive Vice-President, ENGIE

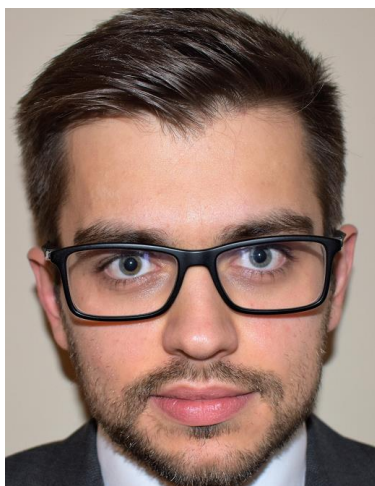
France

Organisation

ENGIE is a global energy player and an expert operator in the three key sectors of electricity, natural gas and energy services. The group puts responsible growth at the heart of all its businesses in order to rise successfully to today's major energy and environmental challenges: responding to the demand for energy, ensuring security of supply, combating climate change and, making optimum use of resources.

Personal

Lolita Carry holds a double Master's degree in Public Affairs from Sciences Po Paris and Berlin FU University. After graduating, Lolita worked 1.5 years on energy issues for the French diplomatic sector in Russia and Turkmenistan (Central Asia). She joined ENGIE, former GDF SUEZ, shortly after the merger in 2009. She then moved successfully across both (i) the organisation - through various operational business units (gas infrastructure, Middle-East power generation) - and (ii) across functional lines (Finance Division, Corporate Strategy, Investments and Project Development). She is now dedicated to ENGIE Executive Management and supporting ENGIE growth in Global Energy Management and Latin America businesses.



Gerdvila, Simas

Policy Officer, Euroheat

Belgium

Organisation

Euroheat & Power is the international network for district energy, promoting sustainable heating and cooling in Europe and beyond. Euroheat is a not-for-profit association headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, which unites the district energy sector. Members come from over thirty countries around the globe and include national district heating and cooling associations, utilities operating district energy systems, industrial associations and companies, manufacturers, universities, research institutes and, consultancies active in the sector.

Personal

Simas works as a Policy Officer at Euroheat & Power, the international association representing the district heating and cooling (DHC) sector in Europe and beyond. In his role, Simas advises association members on European and global energy and climate policy issues. Some of the recent topics he worked on include the EU legislation promoting renewable energy, sustainability criteria for bioenergy, and the EU Emission Trading System. Simas also regularly represents the industry before European and global policy makers shaping the regulatory energy framework, such as the European Commission and the International Energy Agency. Simas has also spent over 3 years in a public affairs consultancy Edelman where he provided policy and strategic communications support to global energy companies, advising them on issues ranging from sustainability and trade to antitrust and innovation. He started his career at the Legal Service of the European Commission, where he focused on renewable energy related cases at the European Court of Justice. Simas holds a Master's degree in Law from Maastricht University (Netherlands) where he researched the interaction between regulation and antitrust law in electricity and gas markets.



Fuselli, Lucia

Energy Specialist, European Investment Bank (EIB)

Luxembourg

Organisation

The European Investment Bank is Europe's public sector bank, which is owned by the Member States and acts to support the priorities which its governors – the EU Finance ministers – have set, consistent with the policies of the EU.

Personal

Lucia is a professional with 10 years international experience and a firm commitment to making the energy transition a reality by working at the nexus between policy, finance and technology. As an Energy Specialist at the European Investment Bank, she is currently in charge of the appraisal and monitoring of around 20 large-scale renewable energy investment projects in Europe, Africa and Asia, whilst contributing to the EIB Technical Advisory platform on energy efficiency and to the energy lending criteria review. Lucia has also been a Research Consultant for London Business School, focusing on innovative finance for energy efficiency, and a Subject Matter Expert for the Urban Innovative Actions initiative for cities. Previously, she was an external consultant for an EU MP in Brussels, advising on energy and sustainable urban regeneration. Lucia developed her early career in Italy and in the UK, working across the entire renewable energy industry: in project development, asset management, corporate (Trina Solar, ABB) and consulting (RINA). She holds a Master in Finance, an MBA and a Master Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering.



Abado, Sarin

Project Leader / Resident Twinning Adviser, European Union

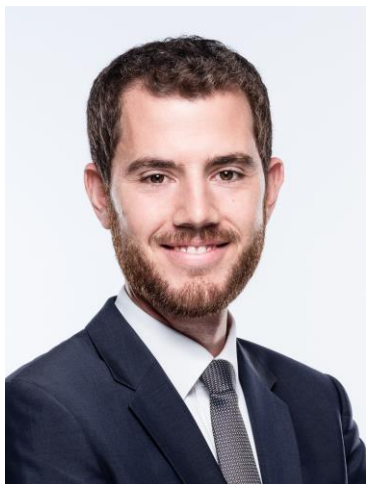
Algeria

Organisation

The European Union (EU) is a political and economic union of 28 member states that are located primarily in Europe. EU policies aim to ensure the free movement of people, goods, services, and capital within the internal market, enact legislation in justice and home affairs, and maintain common policies on trade, agriculture, fisheries, and regional development.

Personal

Sarin Abado is from Austria and draws on extensive international experience in North Africa, Central Asia and the EU. She currently works in Algiers as leader of an EU-funded project with the Algerian Ministry of Energy in the field of energy regulation. Her career started as an energy consultant in Kazakhstan covering the regional electricity and gas sector. She then worked for Austria's Energy Regulatory Authority, E-Control, as its international affairs attaché in Brussels where she closely followed the development of EU policy and legislation in the field of energy infrastructure, security of supply and renewable energy. During her time in Brussels, she also represented Austria in the Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER) in the area of international regulatory strategy and consumer protection. Sarin Abado is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies in Washington D.C. with a specialisation in economics and international energy policy and holds an MBA from Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration.



Fitoussi, Célien

Senior Consultant, EY

Switzerland

Organisation

EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and, advisory services. Worldwide, 167,000 people are united by EY's shared values and an unwavering commitment to quality. Who we are - Our Global Power & Utilities Centre doesn't just react to changing market conditions, we help shape them. We don't just know the issues, we've analysed them to understand their impact on you and the way you do business. We are committed to delivering industry insight that creates value. Our global team of over 4,400 professionals collaborates and shares industry knowledge to help you succeed in a changing world. Our team is ready to develop practical approaches to the assurance, advisory, tax, transactions and, finance-related issues you face. How we work - We make it our business to understand your business and keep our advice relevant to your needs. We work with you as you transform your business, helping you anticipate pitfalls and realise the results on which your future depends. We work with leading companies in the power and utilities industry. This means we understand the sector and its underlying drivers. Wherever you are in the world, we help you manage uncertainty and make the most of change. With a 20% audit market share of the power and utilities companies listed in the 2014 Fortune Global 500, EY is one of the leading auditors globally. We also have a 23% audit market share of the power and utilities companies listed in the 2014 Forbes Global 2000.

Personal

Célien Fitoussi holds an MSc. in Physics from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). Focused on renewable energy during his Master, he has since then worked on a broad range of projects across the whole value chain of electricity providers: from production (valuation of renewable energy assets) to sales (business plans, product development), as well as trading (quantitative risk modelling) and transport/distribution (management of high-voltage grid infrastructure projects, smart meter roll-out strategy). Célien carried out his Master's project in Venezuela on second-generation biofuel production. After completing his civil service at an environmental research centre in the French West Indies, he joined BKW Energie AG, a major player in the Swiss electricity market. Since 2014, Célien has worked as a consultant for Swiss and European energy providers. He first worked for Fichtner Management Consulting AG Schweiz, a boutique strategy consulting company focused on the European utility sector. Célien later joined Ernst & Young AG as energy specialist in the valuation and business modelling team and continues to have a special interest in the renewable energy sector.



Padayachee, Avesh

Founder and CEO, Fibon Energy

South Africa

Organisation

Fibon Energy is a developer of utility-scale renewable energy projects. Our initial focus has been on solar PV, hydro and wind projects. The group relies on the intellectual capacity of its human capital with legal, financial and environmental experience to develop renewable projects. Our mission is to provide innovative, lucid and value-added services to the renewable industry, which we believe is the energy of the future. Our focus is on commercialising renewable opportunities in selected SADC markets and in Africa. Fibon Energy acts as an asset manager and overall coordinator for power generation assets, specialising however in the solar development and advisory process.

Personal

Avesh is the Founder and CEO of Fibon Energy, a renewable energy company based in Johannesburg, South Africa. Fibon Energy is a developer and sponsor of utility-scale renewable energy projects. The advisory practice focuses on energy efficiency and green energy management. Avesh is a Lawyer with legal M&A deal-making expertise, financial advisory experience and experience in start-ups and early-stage companies. He started his career at Webber Wentzel Attorneys - Linklaters in the Mergers and Acquisitions team in South Africa and was part of the team that executed transactions in aggregate of over USD1.4Billion. Avesh founded Fibon Energy in 2012 and is currently managing the development of a utility-scale solar PV project (20MW Solar PV) in Sub-Saharan Africa. Fibon is participating in a bid for two 5MW Solar PV projects in South Africa as part of the Small IPP Program. Avesh holds a Bachelor of Commerce (BCom), a Bachelor of Laws (LLB), University of Cape Town, South Africa and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Finance and Entrepreneurship.



Strand, Malin

Project Manager/Committee Secretary, Fossil Free Sweden

Sweden

Organisation

Fossil-free Sweden is a platform for dialogue and collaboration between companies, municipalities and other types of actors to make Sweden free of fossil fuels. The initiative brings together the knowledge and the will of all sectors of society and works to make visible the work on climate change happening around the country. The goal is for Sweden to become one of the world's first fossil-free welfare countries. Fossil-free Sweden is working to accelerate this transformation, not only because it is a possibility but also because it is economically viable.

Personal

Malin Strand is a project manager at Fossil Free Sweden, a government initiative that aims to catalyse actors to work towards reducing emissions. Malin has several years of experience in different fields of the energy sector and has covered both technical, market and political areas. Her big inspiration and belief in her work is that technology development is the driving force in the energy transition. Malin has been a part of the team that built Engineers without Borders Sweden, where she also has been a board member for several years. Malin's personal long-term mission is to contribute to poverty reduction, and she believes that electrification has a key role in this. Malin holds a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering and Management International from Linköping University. She has large international experiences thanks to several years of studying and working in Germany, Austria, England, Tanzania and, her motherland Sweden.



Ahmad, Faraz

Operations Director, GE Oil & Gas

United States of America

Organisation

GE Oil & Gas works on the things that matter in the oil and gas industry. In collaboration with our customers, we push the boundaries of technology to bring energy to the world. From extraction to transportation to end use, we address today's toughest challenges in order to fuel the future.

Personal

Faraz is a business strategist and an award-winning innovator. He has over ten years of experience in engineering, strategic planning and operations. He has been a key contributor to multiple publications that have contributed to UK energy policy. Faraz is currently managing the global deployment of GE's digital solutions for offshore drilling equipment, to allow real time monitoring and predictive maintenance. Faraz's previous role was as Strategy Director for GE Subsea Systems, a multi-billion-dollar business unit of GE Oil & Gas. His responsibilities included strategic planning, product commercialisation and capital investment evaluation. He was a finalist for the 2017 Subsea UK Emerging Talent award. In 2012, Faraz was seconded to an internal start-up venture for GE Distributed Power in Houston. Prior to GE, Faraz was a management consultant at the BCG in London and has had engineering roles at British Nuclear Fuels, BP and CSR plc. Faraz is an accredited member of the Energy Institute and the Institute of Engineering & Technology. He holds a First Class Bachelors and Master's degree in Electrical and Information Engineering from Cambridge University, UK and MIT, USA.



Bortey-Kharis, Sheila Elizabeth

Operations Planning Engineer, Ghana Grid Company Limited

Ghana

Organisation

Ghana Grid Company Limited, a transmission utility company, engages in the dispatch and transmission of electricity from wholesale suppliers to bulk customers. It also provides transmission services to power market participants; and engages in acquiring, owning, and managing assets, facilities, and systems required for transmitting electrical energy. The company was incorporated in 2006 and is based in Tema, Ghana.

Personal

Sheila Elizabeth Bortey-Kharis is an electrical engineer with the Ghana Grid Company Limited (sole transmission utility in Ghana). She has been working as a planning engineer at the System Operations Department (Dispatch centre) for the past six years. Her role at the company includes forecasting hourly demand and the scheduling of available generation to meet the demand in accordance with economic merit order. During Ghana's 4 year-long power crisis, she was on the load management committee that was responsible for drawing weekly plans for the power system in order to minimise the impact of the crisis on consumers. She is a member of the Energy Sector Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group responsible for reporting key performance indicators of the power sector as part of Government of Ghana and the United States Government partnership for growth (PFG) agreement in 2013. She is part of the West African Power Pool (WAPP) synchronisation team working with consultants to fully synchronise all power systems of West African states. In 2016, she participated in a fellowship program with the International Atomic Energy Agency on Sustainable Energy Planning as part of Ghana's plan to add Nuclear energy to its generation mix.



Brown, Christopher

Energy Trader, Goldman Sachs International

United Kingdom

Organisation

Goldman Sachs Natural Resources Group provides advisory and financing services for clients in the energy, power, infrastructure, chemicals, metals and mining and alternative energy fields. It serves over 1,500 clients globally, working on a range of financial transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, leveraged buyouts, equity and debt financings, commodity hedging, joint venture restructurings and financial investments.

Personal

Chris is an Executive Director in commodities trading at Goldman Sachs. He possesses expertise in physical oil trading, research and strategy, refined products logistics and structured finance. He has seven years of experience and currently works in London focusing on liquid fuels, advising clients on investment decisions across the oil space. In addition, he also focuses on financing and risk management strategies for European energy cooperates. Previous to this he worked for Trafigura, a large physical trading merchant, within their supply and trading function in both Houston and Geneva focusing on marine logistics and research & analytics. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics from the University of Nottingham, where he wrote his dissertation on Environmental Economics.



Kolodziejczyk, Bartłomiej

Chief Technology Officer, H2SG Energy Pte. Ltd.

Australia

Organisation

H2SG Energy Pte. Ltd. is a Singapore-based state-of-the-art electrolyser manufacturer. Proprietary technology developed by H2SG Energy allows for the production of highly cost-competitive electrolysers with superior hydrogen production efficiency. H2SG Energy Group has branches throughout the Asia Pacific and develops projects related to industrial hydrogen, hydrogen refuelling station (HRS), hydrogen energy storage and, power-to-gas (P2G).

Personal

Dr. Bartłomiej Kolodziejczyk is currently appointed as Chief Technology Officer of H2SG Energy Pte Ltd, a company incorporated in Singapore. He is also a Director of Australian subsidiary H2SG Energy (Aus) Pty Ltd. In his role, Kolodziejczyk leads and overlooks developments of two research and engineering teams in Singapore and China. He is also actively involved in the business development of Australian subsidiary and more recently in business and operation endeavours in Australia and China. Kolodziejczyk holds a double PhD in materials engineering (Monash University, Australia) and microelectronics (École des Mines de Saint-Étienne, France). He was awarded a masters in renewable energy sciences jointly from the University of Iceland and University of Akureyri, Iceland, as well as a bachelor and master's degrees in mechanical engineering from Rzeszow University of Technology, Poland, and a master's in project management from the Stockholm University in Sweden. Previously, Kolodziejczyk advised the United Nations, NATO, OECD, G20, World Economic Forum and, European Commission on science, technology, innovation, and, policy. He was named as one of MIT Technology Review's Innovators Under 35, one of 100 Visionary Leaders by Real Leaders Magazine, and has received numerous awards from Victorian Government in Australia.



Tayal, Dev

Strategy Manager, Horizon Power

Australia

Organisation

Horizon Power generates, distributes and retails electricity across Western Australia. Horizon's strategy is to use its unique position as a vertically integrated operator of 37 remote microgrids to achieve much higher levels of distributed renewable energy and deliver its customers more choice and more affordable and reliable electricity.

Personal

Dev Tayal is Strategy Manager for Horizon Power, a vertically integrated energy company operating in Australia. The role sees Dev collaborate closely with industry partners, start-ups, Government, and research institutes to trial innovations particularly focussed on remote microgrids. In addition, Dev is a researcher at Curtin University's Sustainability Policy Institute and a regular contributor to academic journals and media content, discussing renewable energy technology and policy issues. Dev has degrees in electrical engineering and commerce from the University of Western Australia, an M.Phil in Engineering from the University of Cambridge, where he studied as a Menzies Scholar, and a PhD in Sustainable Energy. Over the past ten years, Dev has built up a wealth of energy related professional experiences. He has previously worked as an adviser to the UK and Australian Governments, consultant to the United Nations Development Programme, and finally as an engineer and volunteer for various energy companies across the world.



Hollaj, Lerta

Senior Researcher / Operations Manager, Institute for Development Policy

Kosovo

Organisation

Institute for Development Policy (INDEP) is a think tank in Kosovo that provides research-based policy solutions. Ever since its inception, INDEP has been known for intensively promoting sustainable development as the leading concept for the country's long-term development. INDEP focuses heavily on pushing forward the sustainable development agenda. INDEP has widened its scope of action and reached out to the local communities through various projects targeting the local governments and random citizens living in the selected municipalities.

Personal

Lerta Hollaj works as a Senior Researcher and Operations Manager at the Institute for Development Policy – INDEP in Prishtina, Kosovo. Lerta's work is mainly concentrated in the area of sustainable development with a special focus on energy policy, particularly RES, EE and recently energy transition. She is directly engaged in the coordination and implementation of various INDEP projects, addressing issues such as inclusive policy making, sustainable development of the energy sector and the design of participatory scenarios for sustainable development. With a BA in Applied Arts and Sciences and an MA in Law and Economics, Lerta specialized in the field of Economic Policy and Business Law from the Central European University - CEU. After finishing her master degree, she initially engaged in consultancy work with local and international organizations. She continued to work in the area of policy research and now is a senior staff member at INDEP. Her passion is to contribute in identifying sustainable energy solutions in the Western Balkans, while actively advocating for greater involvement of young women leaders in energy issues.



Aguilar, Mariana

Business Development, Intemepro

Argentina

Organisation

Intemepro is a company that develops and integrates B2B and B2G businesses and sustainable energy solutions for its strategic Partners, using its technological support and guarantees. Currently, it is providing products and services in renewable energy, energy efficiency, sustainable climate control and, hazardous waste management.

Personal

Mariana is a member of the coordinating team of the Energy Leaders Community of the Argentinian Chapter of the World Energy Council, where she works to contribute to the energy agenda in Argentina. She is a member of the Global Shapers Community, an initiative of the World Economic Forum for young leaders. She was selected to participate in the Forum's Annual Meeting in Davos, Switzerland, 2017, alongside 50 young leaders from around the world. She works as a teacher in the Universidad Nacional de Los Comechingones, as a consultant for the same university and for a private company in the solar energy sector. Previously, she worked as Undersecretary of Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency in the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Production of the province of San Luis, and in the Development and Operation of the 3rd solar plant in Argentina. She also worked for a solar energy consultancy startup in Germany. With a full scholarship from the government, she specialized in Energy Technology Management in South Korea. She holds an Industrial Engineering degree from the National Technological University in Cordoba where she graduated with honours. She has been involved in different youth organisations like Rotaract and AArEII, and she cofounded EIA, a political organization for industrial engineering students.



Verma, Piyush

Senior Energy Market Analyst, International Energy Research Centre

Ireland

Organisation

The International Energy Research Centre (IERC) is an industry-led collaborative research centre, and is jointly funded by the Irish government and industry members. It is one of the largest funded technology centres in Ireland and delivers world-leading collaborative research for secure, affordable and sustainable energy services.

Personal

Piyush works as Senior Energy Market Analyst at International Energy Research Centre (IERC) and is currently based in Cork, Ireland. He is an energy policy professional focused on the development of energy efficiency, renewable energy and climate change policies through an integrated approach. He has more than 10 years of experience in technology-related policy and has developed and implemented several projects and policies at the national, as well as, international level. He has worked in India, Vanuatu, and New Zealand on renewable energy and energy efficiency policies. He has published more than 20 peer-reviewed publications which have received numerous national/international level awards. Piyush is an Electrical Engineer and has a PhD in Energy Efficiency Technology and Policy from The University of Auckland, New Zealand. He is also a Certified Energy Manager of the Government of India.



N'Tsoukpoe, Kokouvi

Assistant Professor, International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering

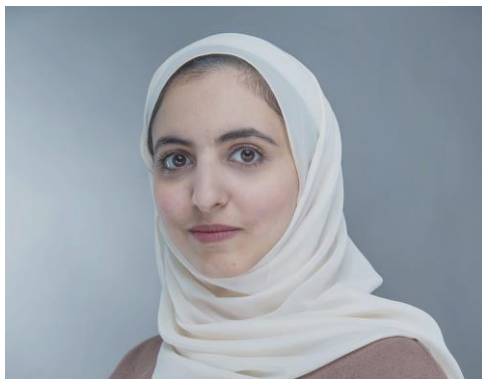
Burkina Faso

Organisation

The International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering (2iE) is a high education and research institution in the field of Water and Sanitation, Energy, Environment and Civil Engineering based in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). Today, 2iE is recognized as a Centre of Excellence by multiple international organisations such as ECOWAS, UEMOA, NEPAD and the World Bank.

Personal

Kokouvi Edem N'Tsoukpoe is an Assistant Professor in Thermal Engineering and Renewable Energy at the International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering (2iE) in Burkina Faso. He is the Training Manager for Energy Engineering Sciences and Techniques at the Department of Energy Engineering of 2iE. Edem, who is a member of the African Network of Solar Energy, earned his Diploma of High-level Technician and a Master of Engineering in Water, Sanitation, Energy and Civil Engineering. He was the best student each year at two schools that were amalgamated to form 2iE. After completing his PhD in Energy and Process Engineering at Université de Grenoble (France), he has spent two years in Germany as a Research Associate at the Innovations Incubator of Leuphana Universität Lüneburg to develop a market-oriented energy storage unit, prior to returning to 2iE in 2013. His primary research activities are in the field of Thermochemical energy storage, Solar cooling and Concentrated solar power. Edem has published more than 15 high-level articles in international peer-reviewed journals and has supervised several MSc theses and co-supervised PhD theses.



Al-Mubarak, Imtenan

Senior Research Analyst, King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC)

Saudi Arabia

Organisation

KAPSARC is an independent, non-profit research institution dedicated to researching energy economics, policy, technology, and the environment across all types of energy. KAPSARC's mandate is to advance the understanding of energy challenges and opportunities facing the world today and tomorrow, through unbiased, independent, and high-calibre research for the benefit of society. KAPSARC is located in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Personal

Imtenan Al-Mubarak is a Research Associate at the King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC), focusing on energy and economic policy research with an emphasis on Saudi Arabia, GCC countries and Northeast Asia. She worked collaboratively with energy research centres in China, Russia, Japan, UAE, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain. She holds a Master's degree with distinction from DePaul University, Chicago, USA, for which she was awarded the Golden Key International Honor. She is a member of the International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE), Saudi National Future Energy Leaders Program (SNFP), and Young Professionals in Energy (YPE). Imtenan participated as a mentor for gifted students at Aramco and in a number of local events targeting tech entrepreneurs. Imtenan was appointed as a Sustainable Development Ambassador of Arab Youth Sustainable Development Network (AYSDN). She also holds a patent in the United States (issued Nov 8, 2016).



Chughtai, Sheharyar

Vice-President, Asia Pacific Project Finance, Korea Development Bank

Singapore

Organisation

Founded in 1954, the Korea Development Bank (KDB) is Korea's representative development financing bank. It is entirely owned by the government of South Korea and has been actively financing energy projects over the last 30 years. KDB is a leading global project finance bank with more than 100 energy and infrastructure projects financed globally over the last decade. KDB has consistently ranked among the world's top 10 project finance houses with a presence in 5 continents and a strong market position in advising and lending to energy projects in the oil and gas industries, especially LNG liquefaction, shipping and regasification as well as conventional power and renewables space.

Personal

Sheharyar Chughtai is Vice President for Asia Pacific Project Finance at Korea Development Bank (KDB) in Singapore. He is responsible for origination, structuring, due diligence and execution of energy (power & renewables, O&G, especially LNG liquefaction and regasification, petrochemicals) and infrastructure transactions. Finally, he has closed several landmark energy financings in the Asia Pacific. Prior to joining KDB in 2014, he worked with Standard Chartered for five years covering structured finance transactions in the energy and infrastructure space in Australia, Southeast Asia and Africa. He began his career as a telecom infrastructure planner with the Norwegian company, Telenor Group, operating in Pakistan. Sheharyar holds a BSc in electrical engineering, an MBA and is a GARP certified Energy Risk Professional (ERP). He is the organiser and moderator for GARP Energy Risk Discussions, a forum for panel discussions on key issues in the energy sector in Asia. He also writes on energy and infrastructure industry issues.



Chae, Yena

Manager - Global Business Department, Korea Gas Safety Corporation

Korea (Rep. of)

Organisation

Under the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, Korea Gas Safety Corporation is a government testing, inspection and R&D organization that enacts, revises and enforces laws related to High-pressure gas, LPG and City gas, largely ensuring safety of practices.

Personal

As the Manager of the Global Business department, at Korea Gas Safety Corporation, Yena is a part of sustainable energy developments and ODA projects that support developing countries, equipping them with gas safety regulations, technologies and standards, and education. The environment and the ethics of human lives are at the core of Yena's work, her understanding of implementing the right energy policies therefore comes naturally to her. Korea's move towards a nuclear-free energy policy will be a challenge, however, Yena believes importing natural gas from abroad could offer interim support to aid the transition to cleaner energy. Yena hopes her analytical private sector experience together with her current Master's degree in Public Policy and Management will take her a step closer to building a greener tomorrow.



Djangba, Rosa

Assistant Projects Officer, Kumasi Institute of Technology Energy and Environment

Ghana

Organisation

A Ghanaian not-for-profit development organisation and a leading actor in the Energy, Technology and Environment sectors in Ghana and the West Africa Sub-Region. Kumasi Institute of Technology Energy and Environment (KITE) is a company limited by guarantee. Since its inception in 1996, KITE has built a unique capacity in the development and implementation of public benefit projects. KITE is the product of extensive capacity that has been built through a broad range of project and program experiences, partnerships with key national and international actors and the development of efficient internal management, governance and reporting capabilities. Their activities cover all ten regions of Ghana from two operational offices – Accra and Kumasi. KITE also works extensively in the ECOWAS sub-region.

Personal

Miss Rosa Monique Emefa Djangba is an expert in renewable energy and agricultural engineering and the Assistant Projects Officer in the Projects department at Kumasi Institute of Technology Energy and Environment (KITE). Prior to working at KITE, Miss Djangba worked as a Programs Manager for the Institute of Sustainable Environmental Solutions. She worked as a Research Assistant for the Abeeku Brew-Hammond Energy Centre in Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST). Miss Djangba also interned for SNV. Throughout her career in the energy sector, she has been focusing mainly on renewable energy and is geared towards promoting this in Ghana. Some projects she has been involved in include: production of bio-diesel from sunflower oil, construction of a Ferro-cement charcoal gasifier, a Biofuel case study in Ghana and finally improving fish smoking stoves. She is pursuing a Master's Degree in Renewable Energy Technologies.



Nzotcha, Urbain

Energy Consultant & Researcher, L3E - ENSP Yaoundé

Cameroon

Organisation

The L3E is the Laboratory of Energy, Water and Environment. As an entity of the National Advanced School of Engineering (ENSP) of Yaoundé, it provides training and research-oriented towards local solutions for safe and environmentally friendly access to energy and water in Cameroon. L3E has a particular focus on renewables such as biomass, solar and small hydro.

Personal

Urbain graduated from the Yaoundé National Advanced School of Engineering in Industrial Engineering in 2012. During his brief time in the industrial sector, working as a technical assistant, Urbain became passionate about energy efficiency because, according to him, the global energy policy is misunderstood by local industrials. He decided to work freely as a consultant in industrial projects aiming to reduce energy fees and to valorise bio-combustible waste for energy supply. Wishing to go further within the energy domain, he undertook Postgraduate studies in 2014 and he is now following a PhD programme on “Energy storage and renewables integration in the Cameroonian power sector”. As an Energy Researcher, he also has experience as a consultant and innovator in energy access and sustainable development issues in remote off-grid villages in West Cameroon. At the World Energy Council, Urbain has been a member of the Solar Knowledge Network since 2015, he joined the FEL-100 community in 2016 and he is now the Energy Access Taskforce co-leader.



De Silva, Tharindu

Electrical Engineer, Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited

Sri Lanka

Organisation

Lanka Electricity Company Private Limited is a Company incorporated in 1983 for the purpose of electricity distribution in Sri Lanka. The formation of the company is by acquiring assets of local authorities to create a modern and efficient distribution network. The objective has surpassed expectations when evaluated after 29 years of operations. The company has consistently attracted foreign funding from the Asian Development Bank and the consultancies of utility consultants such as Becca Worely International in setting up their efficient network is extremely beneficial. LECO as a utility is benchmarked very high in the South East Asian region.

Personal

Tharindu De Silva is an electrical engineer with more than five years of work experience in the energy sector. Tharindu is currently working for Lanka Electricity Company (Private) Limited which is one of two electricity distribution utilities in Sri Lanka. He works as an Electrical Engineer in the system development department. In his current capacity, he is engaged in various network augmentation and renewable energy based smart grid projects within the organisation. The purpose is to meet its cooperate goals aimed towards a sustainable electricity distribution system, enhancing the quality of the energy supply system. He graduated from the Electrical Engineering Department, University of Moratuwa, where he did his Masters in Electrical Engineering. He has undertaken internships in the Asian Development Bank, Manila, in the Southeast Asia Energy Department and also with Ceylon Electricity Board, Sri Lanka. His passion is to improve the affordability and sustainability of the energy sector needs with renewable-based energy sources and innovative positive partnerships with all stakeholders.



Bolonina, Alona

Head of Environmental Management Unit, Latvenergo AS

Latvia

Organisation

The public limited company Latvenergo Group is a state-owned energy utility whose core business is the generation and sale of electricity and thermal energy. The subsidiaries of Latvenergo Group – Latvijas elektriskie tīkli AS and Sadales tīkls AS – provide the transmission and distribution of electricity respectively. Latvenergo AS is one of the environmentally friendly energy companies in Europe. Latvenergo AS is a key company of the Latvian national economy, ensuring introduction of modern technologies in the economy.

Personal

Mrs Alona Bolonina has 11 years of professional experience in the field of energy and is a member of the largest Latvian power utility - Latvenergo. She started her professional experience in the energy field as an environmental specialist. After 3 years she became the Head of the Environmental Management Unit at Latvenergo occupational Health & Safety Department which is responsible for all the various environmental aspects of energy production, supply and trading processes in the areas of climate change, energy efficiency, water management, industrial accidents, pollution prevention and control and, waste management. In 2008, Mrs Bolonina became a Master of Environmental Science at the Faculty of Energy and Electrical Engineering, Riga Technical University. She then continued to doctoral studies (PhD). Since 2013, Mrs Bolonina represents the Latvian Power sector in the Eurelectric association as a member of the Environmental Protection Working Group and she is a member of the Environment and Sustainable Development Policy Committee.



Al Achkar, Rani

Senior Programmes Engineer – Secretary of the Board, Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation

Lebanon

Organisation

The Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (LCEC) is the national energy agency for Lebanon. LCEC is financially and administratively independent but is still a governmental organisation affiliated to the Lebanese Ministry of Energy and Water (MEW). LCEC is the technical arm of the Ministry in all subjects related to energy efficiency, renewable energy, green buildings and, environmental welfare.

Personal

Rani holds an Electrical Engineering diploma from the Lebanese University, Faculty of Engineering. He has 10 years of experience in the field of electrical installations and 8 years in energy efficiency and renewable energies. Rani was responsible for the registration of the first Lebanese Clean Development Mechanism projects in Lebanon related to the national lamps replacement programme. He was involved in the installation of the first solar water heaters testing facility at the Industrial Research Institute. He was leading the implementation of the MED-DESIRE project financed by the European Neighbourhood Partnership Instrument, Cross Border Cooperation initiative. He was coordinating the execution of the Beirut River Solar Snake 1 MW grid-connected solar farm and the 1 MW grid-connected solar farm in the Lebanon Oil Installations in Zahrani. Rani is currently responsible for the installation of 10 grid-connected solar plants in 10 public buildings. He is a member of the inter-ministerial committee working on the negotiation of contracts related to the first wind farm bid by the private sector and leading on the first bid for solar farms by the private sector in Lebanon.



Segale, Pule

Site Manager, Mainstream Renewable Power

South Africa

Organisation

Mainstream Renewable Power is an independent global developer of renewable energy with almost 10,000 megawatts in development and nearly 700 megawatts delivered into construction and commercial operation.

Personal

Pule Segale is a Civil Engineer with a monomaniacal focus in Renewable Energy and Sustainable development. In the last three years, he has worked for two Global Renewable Energy companies and has successfully delivered two Wind Energy Projects in South Africa. His efforts are currently directed at the broader African energy market, where he supports and leads on Mainstream Renewable Power's asset delivery mandate to develop and construct Renewable Energy projects in West Africa under the electrifying Africa platform. Pule is dedicated to meeting head-on, the challenges laid out by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, having worked in the Built Environment his skills are critical in providing access to energy (SDG 7), building infrastructure (SDG 9) and making cities inclusive (SDG11). Pule is an Alumni of the Brightest Young Minds organisation after being selected as one of 100 young leaders in Africa to attend the BYM summit in 2016, he is also a Subcommittee member in the "Projects – Innovation" division of the organisation. He holds a Baccalaureus Scientia in Engineering from the University of Cape Town and is pursuing an MSc in Project Management at the same institution.



Narainsamy, Gavin

Team Leader for Energy Africa Portfolio, Marsh & McLennan Companies

United Kingdom

Organisation

Marsh is a global leader in insurance broking and innovative risk management solutions, Marsh's 30,000 employees advise individual and commercial clients of all sizes in over 130 countries. Marsh is a wholly owned subsidiary of Marsh & McLennan Companies (NYSE: MMC), the leading global professional services firm in the areas of risk, strategy and people. With annual revenue over US\$14 billion and nearly 65,000 colleagues worldwide, MMC helps clients navigate an increasingly dynamic and complex environment through four market-leading firms. In addition to Marsh, MMC is the parent company of Guy Carpenter, Mercer, and Oliver Wyman.

Personal

Gavin graduated from City University London with a degree in Economics. After university, he joined the HSBC graduate programme and spent 2 years learning business before moving to Marsh. At Marsh, Gavin joined the energy team working with energy companies from all around the globe on their risk and insurance needs. During his time at Marsh, Gavin specialised in African business. Shortly after this, he took a leadership position for Marsh focussing on the African continent and leading the initiative and development for Marsh. Along with being a frequent visitor to the continent, Gavin has been able to grow and expand Marsh's footprint in Africa especially in places like Angola and Nigeria. Gavin has been at the forefront of new product development in the continent along with working with state energy companies right down to the newest start-ups. Gavin has also completed his ACII qualification and OIL accreditation.



Rajapakse, Buddhika

Trading Analytics Team Leader, Mercury NZ Ltd.

New Zealand

Organisation

Mercury is an integrated electricity generation, trading, retailing and metering business in New Zealand. Mercury operates renewable generation assets throughout the North Island, with nine power stations along the Waikato River and geothermal plants near Taupo and in the Bay of Plenty. Mercury sells electricity and gas to about 400,000 customers.

Personal

Buddhika has over ten years' experience applying analytics to achieve strategic, commercial and customer-focused outcomes in the IT, water and electricity sectors. At Mercury, one of New Zealand's largest electricity generators and retailers, he manages a team of analysts with wide exposure to wholesale electricity, carbon and gas markets. The team forecasts Mercury's net electricity sales position, co-ordinates energy margin forecasting for the business and generally supports trading tactics through analytical tools and ad hoc investigations. Buddhika manages Mercury's relationship with national grid owner Transpower and is responsible for ensuring Mercury adapts to the market impacts of investments and reconfigurations within the grid. Buddhika takes a keen interest in the efficient operation and regulation of markets. He is a strong contributor to Mercury's submissions on regulatory and market design matters affecting transmission and electricity trading. His MBA research into how good water rights trading market designs can better balance competing social, economic and environmental needs over administrative methods won a "First in Course Award."



Da Bouza, Alejo

Tariff and Commercial Planning Analyst, Metrogas

Argentina

Organisation

Metrogas S.A. is the largest natural gas utility company in South America. Located mainly in Buenos Aires, it provides natural gas for several types of clients: residential, commercial, industrial, electric power plants and CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) stations. With more than 25 years in the business, Metrogas provides secure natural gas to more than 2,500,000 clients.

Personal

Alejo da Bouza is an economist dedicated to energy matters who graduated from the University of Buenos Aires. He is specialized in modelisation, energy prices and financial-economic analysis. He is also highly interested in innovations leading to a low-carbon future for all. Alejo has experience in the public and the private sector (NGOs and private companies). He notably was a board member in three Oil & Gas utility companies on behalf of the Argentinean State. Alejo Da Bouza is currently an assistant professor in macroeconomics theory at the University of Buenos Aires. He also works as a tariff and commercial planning analyst at Metrogas, the largest natural gas distribution company in South America and assists the Argentinean Member Committee of the World Energy Council in prospective research regarding Argentina's energy future.



AlOtaibi, Nura

International Energy Policies Advisor, Ministry of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources

Saudi Arabia

Organisation

The Ministry of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources is one of the governmental bodies of Saudi Arabia and part of the cabinet. The ministry has the function of developing and implementing policies concerning the petroleum and minerals industries, including the exploration, development, production, refining, transportation and, distribution activities.

Personal

Nura Al Otaibi has a cumulative experience of almost 6 years in the energy sector, working as an International Energy Policies Advisor at the Ministry of Energy, Industry & Minerals Resources. Prior to that, she has worked as an environmental scientist at Saudi Aramco, the national oil company of Saudi Arabia, where she has engaged with a diverse set of topics, ranging from sustainability and strategy to research. This demonstrated the ability to address challenging tasks skilfully, with exceptional natural energy, attention to detail and a tireless work ethic. She is particularly interested in how regulation can be used to encourage sustainable energy. Nura Al Otaibi has been a member of the Saudi Arabia Delegation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and negotiations surrounding the Montreal Protocol of Ozone depleting substances. She has been assigned to national reports including the greenhouse gases inventory, accounting for nationally determined contributions of greenhouse gases under the Paris Agreement. Currently, she serves on the Consultative Group of Experts, representing the Asia-Pacific Region under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). A bilingual who is fluent in Arabic & English and at a medium level of French & Russian. She holds a Bachelor's of Science from King Abdul-Aziz University (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia) and volunteers actively for several Campaigns including the "Campaign for the underprivileged ladies" and the "African Youth Campaign at UNDP".



Pica, Andrés

Head of Office of Sustainable Heating and New Technologies, Ministry of Environment

Chile

Organisation

The Chilean Ministry of the Environment is the State body responsible for collaborating with the President in the design and implementation of environmental policies, plans and programs, as well as in the protection and conservation of biological diversity and Renewable natural resources and water. This promotes sustainable development, the integrity of environmental policy and its normative regulation.

Personal

Andres is a Civil Industrial Engineer from the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile with a Master of Science in Environmental Engineering from the Politecnico di Torino, graduating with the thesis “Environmental Scenarios of the Chilean Electric System with a Times Model”. Between 2009 and 2015 he worked as a consultant in energy, environment and public policy for consulting firm GreenlabUC, developing services for international institutions, public sector and private companies. Since 2015 he has worked for the Ministry of Environment, where he currently holds the position of Head of Sustainable Heating and New Technologies Office. Andres is responsible for the implementation of programs that seek to improve the way Chilean people heat their homes, mainly through the reduction of indoor and outdoor air pollution and improvement of energy efficiency and comfort. He has also developed projects related to Electric Transport, District Energy and many others. Andres has also been a Professor at the Pontifical Catholic University and at the Metropolitan University of Technology, where he has taught courses, such as Energy and Environmental Economics for the Master of Energy Engineering, and Environmental Economics for undergraduate students.



Khumalo, Nlwazi

Energy Officer, Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy - Swaziland

Swaziland

Organisation

The Energy Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources & Energy is the custodian of policy and operational activities pertaining to the energy sector. Its mission is to effectively manage the national energy resources and to work towards affordable and sustainable energy provision for all the people in the country, whilst ensuring the international competitiveness of the energy sector.

Personal

Nlwazi Khumalo has been an Energy Officer in the Energy Department within the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy since 2012. She obtained a BSc in Biochemistry in 2009 and a BSc with Honours in Energy Studies in 2016. Nlwazi is passionate about energy planning and the modelling of energy systems. She is involved in the development of quantitative energy models for policy formulation in Swaziland. She has experience in models including LEAP, MESSAGE and OseMOSYS. Throughout her career, she has participated in international forums such as the World Energy Congress, Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, IEA Energy Statistics Course and the Energy Modelling Platform for Africa. Nlwazi has gained valuable experience in energy systems planning through working with international experts from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Energy Research Centre (ERC) of South Africa to name a few. She has prospects to further her studies with a Master's degree in Energy Systems Planning. In her free time, Nlwazi puts her warm personality into sight-seeing, reading and serves in church as a Vice-Chair of the youth committee and Secretary of the social and welfare committee.



Thorarinsson, Loftur

PhD Candidate, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies in Japan

Japan

Organisation

The National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) is an international premier policy school with the aim of contributing to the betterment of democratic governance around the world. They excel at providing interdisciplinary education for future leaders in the public sector and conduct research on contemporary policy issues to generate innovative solutions.

Personal

Loftur Thorarinsson is a PhD Candidate at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies in Japan where he conducts research on the Politics of Upstream Oil Development Policies in resource-scarce countries like Japan. He also serves as a Director of the Icelandic Chamber of Commerce in Japan. Loftur holds an MSc degree in International Management from SOAS, University of London and a BSc degree from Copenhagen Business School. Loftur has over 6 years of business development experience in renewable energy in Japan in his capacity as business development manager for numerous leading solar energy companies. As an Icelandic national, fluent in Japanese, he has contributed to the energy cooperation of Iceland and Japan. He has done this in the field of geothermal energy and inbound or outbound investment to Japan or Iceland. Finally, he has assisted multinational solar companies with expanding their businesses in Japan. Loftur is scheduled to finish his PhD in 2018 and will as of August 2017 move to the UK as an OIES-Saudi Aramco Fellow at the Oxford Institute for Energy Studies for further research.



Rehman, Salman

Deputy Director, NEPRA

Pakistan

Organisation

NEPRA regulates the electric power sector to promote a competitive structure for the industry and to ensure the co-ordinated, reliable and adequate supply of electric power in the future. By law, NEPRA is mandated to ensure that the interests of the investor and the customer are protected through judicious decisions based on transparent commercial principals and that the sector moves towards a competitive environment.

Personal

Mr Rehman has been working in the energy sector for the last 10 years. He has worked extensively on public-private partnership, power policy, public finance, supervision of investments and financial analysis and modelling of various conventional and renewable energy projects. He also conducts regulatory audits of different power plants who have achieved commercial operations. At NEPRA, Mr Rehman is responsible for all the matters related to coal. He is spearheading the team that has been tasked to facilitate the induction of coal power projects with a capacity close to 8000 MW into the grid. His current task is to develop a framework of coal pricing for expected annual coal import of approx. 20 million tons. In the US, he worked as an Investment Research Manager in Burkenroad Reports which is a sell-side equity research program. Mr Rehman worked with executive management of a small to mid-size Exploration and Production (E&P) firms with market caps of 1 to 5 USD billion to evaluate their 12-month target stock price. As a Fulbright Scholar, Mr Rehman has done Masters in Business Administration, from Tulane University, New Orleans, U.S. specialising in Energy, Finance and International Business.



Yadua, Asekhame

Reservoir Engineer, Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation

Nigeria

Organisation

NNPC is an integrated Oil and Gas Company, engaged in adding value to the nation's hydrocarbon resources for the benefit of all Nigerians and other stakeholders. NNPC strives to be a world-class oil and gas company driven by commitment to excellence.

Personal

Asekhame has been working for the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) since August 2012. In this period, he has worked as a Process Engineer, Project Engineer and he is currently working as a Reservoir Engineer. When he worked as a Project Engineer, he was commended by NNPC's top management for his outstanding performance in the successful execution of several key gas development projects. He was also commended by the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) Section 116 and NNPC management for his exceptional performance during the SPE Nigeria Council Young Professionals Field Development Plan (FDP) competition. Section 116 won first position in the competition. Asekhame has been trained in subject areas covering the entire spectrum of the Oil and Gas industry. He achieved distinction in the World Bank-sponsored course entitled Natural Resources for Sustainable Development: The Fundamentals of Oil, Gas and Mining Governance. He successfully completed the Level 1 Programme of the International Well Control Forum; the Reservoir Geomechanics course offered by Stanford University; the course entitled Oil and Gas: From Exploration to Distribution, offered by IFP School; and several other courses.



Mulwa, Seeng Sarah Boitumelo

Energy and Environment Development Consultant, Now for Them Community Trust

Botswana

Organisation

Now For Them is a legally registered Community Trust with a mandate to develop programmes which create economic gain, promote quality education and conservation of natural resources for vulnerable communities. Its main programme donates solar lamps to scholars without access to electricity in rural Botswana. This programme promotes quality education, reduces illiteracy prominent in rural settlements and reduces gender disparities in education.

Personal

Seeng Sarah B. Mulwa is the Founder and President of Now for Them Community Trust. She is an energy and environment development expert and a trainee Environmental Assessment Practitioner. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Science and English Language and a Master's in Sustainable Energy Development. Sarah has experience in the solar industry as a renewable energy strategist. Through her Trust she raises funds to buy solar lamps for scholars without access to electricity in rural Botswana. This allows them to have an equal opportunity to study and do homework after dark. Her work promotes inclusive education and access to energy for all.



Thaler, Florian

Oil Strategist, Och-Ziff Capital Management Group

United Kingdom

Organisation

Founded in 1994 by Daniel S. Och, Och-Ziff Capital Management Group is one of the largest institutional alternative asset managers in the world, with approximately USD 46.5 billion in assets under management as of August 1, 2015.

Personal

Florian is an energy trading strategist with hedge fund Och-Ziff in London. Prior to this he was a Vice President at Citigroup in London analysing global oil markets and devising trading strategies for North Sea crude and European refined oil products. He began his career as an oil market analyst with Royal Dutch Shell in London, Zug and Hamburg. Before joining Royal Dutch Shell, he was a trainee at the Italian Embassy in Almaty/Kazakhstan. Florian holds an Undergraduate degree in Business Administration from Bocconi University Milan, Italy, a Business and European integration diploma from Sciences-Po Paris, France, a Post-graduate diploma in International Oil Supply and Trading from the Oxford Princeton Programme in Oxford, UK and a Doctoral degree from Vienna University of Economics and Business in Vienna, Austria.



Formosa, Andreas

Legal Adviser, Office of Gas and Electricity Markets

Cyprus

Organisation

The Office of Gas and Electricity Markets, supporting the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority, is the government regulator for the electricity and downstream natural gas markets in Great Britain.

Personal

Andreas is an energy lawyer (qualified in both England and Cyprus) who specialises in advising on regulatory frameworks, competition law and commercial agreements within the energy sector. Andreas is particularly interested in how regulation can be used to encourage innovation, particularly in relation to creating a more flexible electricity grid. Previously, Andreas has worked for innovative energy start-ups (Tempus Energy and Opower) as well as on EU Climate and Energy law in Brussels. He holds an LL.B from the London School of Economics and an LL.M in Environmental Law & Policy from University College London.



McDermid, Faye

Manager-Project Assurance & Commercial Strategies, Ontario Power Generation

Canada

Organisation

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) is the largest electricity generation company in Ontario, Canada, producing half of the electricity that Ontario homes and businesses rely on each day. OPG is publicly-owned and operates a fleet of hydroelectric, nuclear and biomass facilities, producing power that is over 99% free of smog and greenhouse gas emissions.

Personal

Faye is a finance/strategy professional with 12 years of experience in the energy sector. Her love for personal development and growth has led her to take on many broad and challenging roles from operations, portfolio management, trading of electricity/derivatives and regulatory rate setting, to her current role where she is a strategist for the largest infrastructure project currently underway in Canada. Whether designing and implementing a new trading strategy, expanding company market reach, initiating a communication protocol to improve operations, strategising to instil a regulatory culture or developing strategies to ensure the success of a mega project, Faye has demonstrated a drive to change the status quo and solve the most challenging problems in the energy sector. Faye has an Electrical Engineering degree from the University of Waterloo and an MBA from the Rotman School of Business where she graduated on the Dean's list and as a Bregman Scholar. Outside of work, Faye is an active member of Turnout, the National Ballet of Canada's young professional program, where she and her peers are shaping the future of the ballet. Faye loves to travel, attend ballet, exercise and all things related to interior design.



Imperatore, Francisco

Marketing Specialist, Pan American energy LLC

Argentina

Organisation

Pan American Energy (PAE) is a Joint-Venture between BP, CNOOC and Bidas, now present in Argentina, Mexico, Bolivia, Uruguay and Paraguay. PAE operates conventional, non-conventional and offshore fields, participates in the refining and marketing segment under the brand Axion Energy and owns power generation assets, both thermal and renewable.

Personal

Francisco Imperatore is currently a Marketing Specialist at Pan American Energy, a Joint-Venture formed by BP, CNOOC and Bidas, which operates across Latin America. He is responsible for a wide range of Commercial functions including crude oil sales, wind power projects business development and power sales, energy commodities market analysis and oil and, gas midstream projects analysis. Previously, he held the position of Portfolio Risk Analyst in Eon Global Commodities, the trading arm of Eon (now Uniper) in Germany and of Consultant in a project delivered to Gas Natural Fenosa in Spain. Drawing on his industry expertise he participates as a guest lecturer in the Buenos Aires Technological Institute and in Buenos Aires University. Since 2017, he has been involved in the activities of the Argentinean Member Committee of the Council, where he is now part of the Technical Committee responsible for defining the contents of the 2018 Latin American Energy Forum. Francisco graduated from Universidad of Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2008 and finished his MSc in Operations Research from the University of Warwick, United Kingdom, in 2011.



Moro, Aimé

MSc student in Energy policy; responsible of strategic watch and development at green countries from 2014 to 2016, Panafrican University for Water and Energy Sciences

Algeria

Organisation

The PAU is an initiative of the African Heads of State and Government of the African Union. It is a premier continental university network whose mission is to provide a comprehensive postgraduate education geared towards the development of a prosperous, integrated and peaceful Africa. The PAU is part of a continental initiative to revitalise higher education and research in Africa. It is aiming to exemplify excellence, enhance the attractiveness and global competitiveness of African higher education and research and establish African Universities at the core of Africa's development.

Personal

Aimé Moro is a graduate student in Public Law and a Postgraduate student in energy policy at the Panafrican University of Water and Energy, including climate change. He has a long experience in civil society and has been involved in campaigns related to climate change and sustainable development. In 2015, he campaigned with his social company, green countries for energy and bio fertiliser access and energy efficiency in his country. Convinced that the realisation of all the other Sustainable Development Goals depend on goal 7 (affordable and clean energy), Aimé decided to join the Panafrican Institute for Water and Energy in 2016 to enhance his capacity as an energy leader at a regional level. He is now promoting the Panafrican youth network for energy in order to increase youth representation in the energy sector at a high level in Africa.



Brkic, Iva

Representative – Energy Expert, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia to the UN in Geneva

Croatia

Organisation

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations Office and other international organisations in Geneva is a diplomatic mission of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations' organisations.

Personal

Ms Iva Brkic is an energy analyst who has been dedicatedly pursuing her career in energy industry internationally. She has worked for UN's International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, PetroChina in Beijing and oil & gas consultancy Westwood Global Energy Group (WGEG) in London. Currently, Iva is working as an energy specialist at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations in Geneva. Iva has extensive international public and private sector energy industry experience. As an energy consultant, Iva has worked internationally on a range of bespoke research and advisory projects, for major investment banks and private equity firms. Prior to WGEG, she worked at PetroChina where she tailored the company's new markets' entry strategies, focusing on upstream oil & gas assets overseas. At the UN Iva is working closely with the Member States on sustainable energy topics and achieving SDG 7. Iva holds a BSc degree in Economics and MA in East Asian Economy and Society from the University of Vienna. She is fluent in English, German and Croatian with advanced knowledge of Mandarin, French and Russian.



AlShaaibi, Sultan

Process Engineer, Petroleum Development Oman

Oman

Organisation

Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) is a major hydrocarbon exploration and production company in the Sultanate of Oman. We account for about 70% of the country's crude oil production and nearly all of its natural gas supply. Gas fields and processing plants are operated by PDO exclusively on behalf of the Government. PDO is a limited liability company which is owned by the Government of Oman (which has a 60% interest), the Shell Group (34%), Total (4%) and Partex (2%), and operates on a no-profit, no-loss basis and is officially revenue neutral.

Personal

Sultan is a graduate of Chemical and Process Engineering from Sultan Qaboos University. After his graduation, Sultan joined Petroleum Development Oman as a development process engineer where he worked as a process support engineer in Harweel Field in Southern Oman. After completion of this first assignment, Sultan pursued a Master's degree in Energy and Environment that awarded him with a double degree from both; the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm and the Technical University of Madrid. On his return and with his new qualification, Sultan resumed his duties in Petroleum Development Oman in the Energy Policy Section. Petroleum Development Oman Process Concept Engineer Oman 0096892331287 sultanconan@hotmail.com



Low, Wan Ching

Petroleum Geoscientist, Petronas

Malaysia

Organisation

Petroleum Nasional Berhad (PETRONAS) is Malaysia's fully integrated oil and gas multinational ranked among the largest corporations on the FORTUNE Global 500®. Operating our core business in the Upstream and Downstream sectors, we have had a presence in more than 60 countries and were first incorporated in 1974. We are among the top five oil and gas companies (in terms of production) and the most profitable company in Asia. We are steadily driving for new solutions and pushing boundaries to develop and add value to oil and gas resources in a manner that carefully balances commercial, environmental and social considerations.

Personal

Wan Ching has 5 years of work experience with PETRONAS (National Oil Company of Malaysia) as a geoscientist and is equipped with an MSc in Petroleum Geoscience from Royal Holloway, University of London. She has carried out basin evaluation projects covering offshore Eastern Canada, New Zealand, UK North Sea, Alaskan North Slope, Malaysia and reviewed farm-in opportunities in Latin America (Suriname Basin) and West Africa (Senegal, Cote d' Ivoire). Previously she was a wellsite & operation geologist for shallow water, deep-water and HPHT wells in Malaysia. In addition, she was working in exploration Production Sharing Contract (PSC) in the Malaysian department and liaised with international operators. Wan Ching was a member of the pioneer youth committee for the World Gas Conference 2012 Taskforce. Her main task was to organise a roundtable forum between CEOs of oil & gas companies. Furthermore, she was involved in designing essay and video topics for a competition to select international youth delegates. She is passionate and actively involved in volunteering for geoscience students and young professionals. She is the founder and current president of AAPG Young Professionals Kuala Lumpur chapter since 2013. Currently, Wan Ching is based in Kuala Lumpur as an exploration geoscientist in basin analysis and acreage evaluation division for Canada, Latin America and Equatorial West Africa.



Oyewole, Olawole

Team Leader, PLATGIC Limited

Nigeria

Organisation

PLATGIC Limited is a consultant and contractor in all aspects of electro-mechanical, renewable energy, power systems and security. The company's reputation is built and based upon providing quality value added engineering services to its varied and diverse clients through specialisation in Engineering Installations and Designs, Renewable Energy & Environment Impact Assessment, Power Management & Product services, Security System Solutions and Technical training & Workshops. It has accumulated expertise and knowledge that is very highly regarded within the industry. Its vision is to lead in providing quality technological services in Africa.

Personal

Olawole Oyewole is a solid and experienced professional who brings a unique technical, uncommon innovative approach, management capabilities and strong values and expectations to the workplace. He has a background in Electrical Electronics Engineering with a specific interest and focus on the power and energy industry. Since 2011, Olawole has been the MD/CEO of PLATGIC Limited, an indigenous company with a special focus in renewable energy solutions. He is also a senior engineer and team member with Highlander Energy Limited in the ongoing state of Osun waste to electricity conversion project in Ilesha Osun State Nigeria. Olawole is a fellow member at ECOWAS centre for renewable energy and energy efficiency (ECREEE). He is currently among the eight young energy experts chosen by ECREEE in West Africa for an energy sustainability course anchored by Columbia state University CVN and sponsored by the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO). He has travelled to major African countries while working on renewable energy potential research in solar and wind energy systems. He is a professional member of the European Energy Council (EEC). Olawole is a dynamic thinker and has shown proven competences in engineering study and practical type services.



Gnoth, Daniel

Senior Data Reporting Analyst, Powerco

New Zealand

Organisation

Powerco strives to deliver reliable energy to your door. We keep the lights on and gas flowing to more than 430,000 homes, businesses and organisations across the North Island. Our energy brings warmth, comfort and security. We do this safely and efficiently and when supply is interrupted we respond quickly so you can get on with your lives. We are proud of our small-town origins and local history. You will see us getting behind community groups and events – it's important to us to support worthy causes and organisations. At Powerco, we are preparing for the future to provide a trusted service that evolves with changing technology.

Personal

Dr Daniel Gnoth is an experienced researcher who has worked on a wide range of energy issues. His work has focused on understanding the social drivers of energy demand to inform the development of sustainable energy transitions. Daniel has worked in both academic and industry sectors uncovering the impacts and opportunities that face consumers and energy providers in a rapidly evolving technological landscape. Daniel has collaborated with interdisciplinary research programmes such as the Energy Cultures Projects, IEA task 24 'behaviour changes', and coordinated the Otago Energy Research Centre. His PhD involved the use of multiple disciplines when developing a framework to help practitioners utilise life stages such as moving home to create meaningful energy interventions. After taking up a post-doctoral research position at Powerco, New Zealand's second largest energy distributor, Daniel's insight now stretches across the sociotechnical system. He now works across multiple departments and organisations to support a range of research projects such as reflective pricing, smart houses, peer to peer energy sharing networks, and electric vehicles.



Njoki Wanjiru, Elizabeth

Project Assistant, Practical Action

Kenya

Organisation

Practical Action(PA) is an international development agency working with communities to help them choose and use technology to improve their livelihood security. For over 50 years, PA has been using technology to challenge and empower poor communities to build sustainable, practical solutions to work their own way out of poverty. The organization is active in 45 countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America, delivering sustainable energy clean water, improving food security and reducing the risk of natural disasters, demonstrating that technology holds the answers to many of the world's problems and has the power to transform lives. Energy has been at the heart of Practical Action's work and for over 40 years we have delivered sustainable energy access for off-grid and underserved populations in developing countries which in turn serves their needs and enable positive impacts on their livelihoods, wellbeing and environment. In pursuit of this goal we have designed and delivered hydro, solar and wind-powered mini-grid schemes and improved cookstoves and solar PV appliance programmes in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Our experience has taught us that in order to develop sustainable energy solutions it is necessary to work across the areas of technology, community, capacity, environment, enterprise and policy.

Personal

Elizabeth Njoki is an energy engineer and a project manager with a particular interest in energy access and renewable energy. Currently working at Practical Action (East Africa) where she provides technical and programmatic support across of a breadth of renewable energy & energy efficient projects in improved cookstoves, pico-solar units, mini/micro grids systems. The role involves working closely with both public and private sector stakeholders in the energy sector for consistency of approach in the development/management of assignments geared towards deployment/uptake of modern energy solutions.

Elizabeth focuses on the analysis of a wider development context, including policy, regulations, markets and socio-economic aspects of energy access initiatives. Elizabeth has a BSc in Energy Engineering and Technology from Kenyatta University and four years working experience in energy access and rural electrification. She has vast experience conceptualising, developing and evaluating energy access projects having managed several consultancy assignments and teams for clients such as the World Bank, Global Alliance of Clean Cook Stoves (GACC), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF-Kenya), Energy Environment Partnership (EEP) and Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All). She is based in Kenya and occasionally travels to Rwanda.



Akgun, Anduvap Servet

Co-Founder & Managing Director, Pure Energy

Turkey

Organisation

Pure Energy is a privately held company focusing on Energy Trading and Origination business with a disruptive/innovative approach. Founded by energy sector professionals with a combined experience of more than 25 years, both locally and internationally, Pure Energy aims to become the leading energy services supplier in Turkey. Based in Istanbul, Pure Energy is the first real-time Virtual Power Plant (www.Santral.Istanbul) operator of Turkey improving the integration of renewable energies into the Turkish Grid.

Personal

Anduvap Servet Akgün is the founder and managing director of Pure Energy. Prior to this role, he was a Cross-Border power trader at Statkraft Trading GmbH, Düsseldorf where he was covering more than fifteen countries in Central-Western Europe. He is a board member of the Energy Traders' Association of Turkey and member of the Advisory Committee at Borsa Istanbul for Energy Derivatives. As a guest lecturer at Sabancı and Koç Universities, Anduvap shares his views on energy market design and value chain. Anduvap holds an MSc in International Business and a CEMS (Community of European Management Schools) MSc in International Management from the Norwegian School of Economics and University of St. Gallen, Switzerland respectively. He graduated from Yıldız Technical University, Istanbul with BSc degree in Economics in 2004.



Gi, Kei

Researcher, Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth

Japan

Organisation

RITE was established in 1990 as a centre of excellence to work toward developing innovative environmental technologies based on the Earth Regeneration Plan "The New Earth 21" compiled by the Japanese government. We have been carrying out R&D activities for the mitigation of global warming, including R&D on CCS, biorefinery technologies and the integrated analysis on the strategy for mitigating global warming.

Personal

Kei Gi is a Researcher with the System Analysis Group at the Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth (RITE), Japan. His research interests focus on integrated assessment of energy and environmental systems and climate change mitigation, e.g., long-term low-carbon development scenarios under the Paris Agreement, integrated measures and co-benefits of climate change mitigation and air pollution reduction, building energy demand and consumer behaviour and service demand change in terms of time use. He is also interested in energy technology development, especially in fusion energy. Dr Gi holds his PhD and MSc in Energy Science, and BSc in Electrical Engineering from The University of Tokyo, Japan. He received the 5th Kaya Award from Japan Society of Energy and Resources in 2017, the Dean's Award from the Graduate School of Frontier Sciences at The University of Tokyo in 2015, and the Best Presentation Awards from the Japan Society of Plasma Science and Nuclear Fusion Research in 2012.



Kovalev, Denis

L&D head, Rosatom

Russian Federation

Organisation

The Russian State Atomic Energy Corporation ROSATOM employs more than 255,000 people and incorporates more than 300 enterprises and scientific institutions. Rosatom is #1 in the world in simultaneously implementing Nuclear Power Plants construction projects (42 units all over the world). Russia is No. 1 in Russia in terms of nuclear power generation (about 18% of total power generated in Russia).

Personal

Denis Kovalev is the L&D head of the HR department of JSC TVEL, the Fuel Division head company of the State Atomic Energy Corporation ROSATOM. He has been working in the Learning & Development department of ROSATOM for more than 7 years. His role includes design & deployment of internal educational resources throughout the Fuel Division with more than 20K employees. His professional activity has led to successful implementation of several key projects aimed at boosting engineering solutions proposed to address technological challenges, keeping workers' and prospective students' skill level up to global World Skills standards, promoting a continuous improvement of culture, shaping internal coaches' community with improvement management and safety culture framework deployment and finally, attracting and keeping young professionals through brand promotion and tech tournaments. Denis is a serving member of the ROSATOM succession pool. He also holds an engineering degree in Process system modelling and research from Nizhny Novgorod State Technical University.



Grajetzky, Corinna

Manager, European Affairs, RWE AG

Germany

Organisation

RWE is one of Europe's five leading electricity and gas companies. Through high expertise in oil, gas and lignite production; electricity generation from gas, coal, nuclear and renewables, energy trading as well as electricity and gas distribution and sales, we are active at all stages of the energy value chain.

Personal

Corinna Grajetzky studied Political Science and Public Administration focusing on EU affairs at the University of Osnabrück (Germany) and the Institut d'Etudes Politiques / Sciences Po Paris (France). After completing her Master's degree in 2005, she started her professional career in Brussels working for a Public Affairs Consultancy on a broad range of EU policies. In 2008, she joined the Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK) at their EU Representation in Brussels. Since then, she has focussed her work on European climate and energy policies and as a Director, especially on the EU Emissions Trading Scheme. In 2014, Corinna joined the German energy company RWE AG as Manager European Affairs in their Brussels office. She oversees the EU's Climate and Energy targets for 2030, the EU Emissions Trading Scheme and the UNFCCC negotiations. She strongly contributed to RWE's positioning in the decarbonisation debate. She could successfully position RWE as a strong supporter of an ambitious EU climate target and a strengthened Emissions Trading Scheme and secure RWE's involvement in the COP21 negotiations leading to the Paris Agreement.



Chibambo, Charles

Partner, S.I.T.E. Engineering

Malawi

Organisation

S.I.T.E. Engineering utilises all sources of energy to develop Integrated Electricity Systems in Emerging Markets. Our team of Innovators, Engineers and Project Managers oversees projects from conceptualisation to commissioning with realistic timeframes and financing structures that are in line with our client's needs.

Personal

Charles is an Electrical Engineer with over nine years of experience in electricity generation, transmission and distribution in both on and off grid systems. He leads in power system design and project preparation within an unbundled, developing power sector. Over the years, he has closely coordinated with other infrastructure project experts in roads, rail and energy under the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Program on implementation strategies and participated in various international energy leadership programs. These include the International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP) on Energy Security and Cigre B3.43, which developed his technical skills in power market analysis, project finance, utility operations and system design. He has utilised these skills towards enhancing capacity within Sub-Saharan Africa to accelerate the rate of electrification through rapidly developing financially viable power projects and increased private sector investment. Charles holds a BSc in Electrical Engineering from the University of Malawi and a Master's Degree in Leadership and Change Management from Leeds Metropolitan University and is a registered engineer with the Malawi Board of Engineers.



Abilkassimova, Rizagul

Senior Manager, Samruk Energy

Kazakhstan

Organisation

Samruk-Kazyna National Welfare Fund Joint-Stock Company is a national management holding company established to enhance the competitiveness and sustainability of the Kazakhstan economy and to proactively address the possible negative impacts of global market changes on Kazakhstan's economic growth.

Personal

Rizagul Abilkassimova holds a Bachelor degree in Economics and Statistics from the Almaty Academy of Economics and Statistics and in "Interpreter-Translator" from Pavlodar State University. She has experience working in the Oil and Gas sector, accounting and international cooperation. While working at "Samruk-Energy" JSC she managed to, launch the business transformation portal, developed for the purpose of communicating about the progress of the Transformation programme, as well as involving employees from subsidiaries and affiliates, she also organised major international events. During the World Congress of Engineers and Scientists, under the leadership of "Samruk-Energy" JSC, she was in charge of the "Energy for the Future – Prospects for the development of Global Energy" section. She organised the 4th meeting of the Kazakh-Korean Business Council to strengthen business ties between the countries and establish direct contacts. She was awarded several certificates, such as, "Marketing tools and methods of pricing in the energy sector", "Sustainability reporting in accordance with GRI guidelines" and "Methodology for assessing business cases and others".



Lee, Gordon (Do-Hyung)

Investment Manager, Energy and Mineral Sector, Samtan

Korea (Rep. of)

Organisation

Samtan is an energy and resources company based in Korea. The company started in the mining business from 1962 and now it produces 41 million tonnes per annum of eco-friendly coal in Indonesia through its local company, PT Kideco Jaya Agung. Samtan tries to diversify its business in terms of region and industry. It expanded its business to include energy sectors such as Power and the LPG production industry. It also invested in Australian coal business by participating in as a ASX listed company. Samtan believes that it can contribute to the world by enhancing the energy industry and seeks opportunities for better energy and resources.

Personal

Mr Dohyung Lee, also known as Gordon Lee, is in charge of investment in Energy and Energy Infrastructures. He has served as a business development manager in the Korean energy company, Samtan. Concurrently, he is a Director in an Australian coal company. During his incumbency, he has contributed to the company with his experience in financial structuring and intelligence on the international coal market. Mr Lee has a Master degree in Mining Engineer (MEng) from Hanyang University in Seoul. He is interested in energy economics so his study has been mainly about analysis of the energy market and national policies in terms of behavioural economics. He has two bachelor degrees in Psychology and Economics from Korea University.



Hassan, Ahmed

ROV Pilot/Tec, Sapesco Offshore Services (S.O.S.)

Egypt

Organisation

Sapesco Offshore Services (SOS) offers a great deal of specialised surveying and consultancy services based on an innovative approach to problem-solving. In association with its alliance partners, SOS offers global turnkey solutions to a diverse array of clients. SOS personnel has gained substantial experience in the design, initiation, execution and interpretation of a wide range of geophysical, hydrographic, topographic, and oceanographic survey in both the marine and terrestrial environment.

Personal

Ahmed Hassan is a mechatronics engineering professional, with over four years of experience in the Offshore Oil and Gas industry. During the past few years, he managed to develop and strengthen his knowledge and skills through carrying out a variety of tasks (maintenance, operation, design, fabrication, technical support, training and, project management). Mr Hassan has over 10 years of extracurricular experience with various non-profit organisations, working to improve the community through service as well as professional development projects. He is currently the President of the Rotaract Club of New Cairo, with a focus on carrying out community service projects all over Egypt in partnership with other community service organisations. Finally, he also supports the Rotaract community by developing its members through professional development sessions and workshops.



Baig, Uzair

Investment Lead, Saudi Aramco

Canada

Organisation

With more than 65,000 employees worldwide, Saudi Aramco is an integrated global petroleum company and the leading industrial enterprise in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The company manages the world's largest proven oil reserves and is the world's largest producer exporter of crude oil, a major natural gas producer, and a leading player in the global refining sector.

Personal

To fulfil a curiosity of electricity, Uzair Baig completed an Electrical Engineering degree from the University of Toronto and later pursued an MBA from the University of Oxford to better understand financial management. He has 10 years of experience as a professional engineer and certified energy manager. He worked in Canada for utilities, public agencies and private sector to support energy efficiency programs, feed-in tariff programs for solar energy, and real-time integration of renewables. He was also the leader in Ontario on securing the highest level of funding for energy management for Fortune 500 clients. To further broaden his energy sector training and gain emerging market experience, he moved to Saudi Arabia to work in Oil and Gas, focusing on strategy and downstream and was selected on an advisory board at Saudi Aramco to convey the concerns of young professionals directly to C level.



Azeta, Mervin

Senior Completions engineer, Schlumberger Corporation

Nigeria

Organisation

Schlumberger is the world's leading supplier of technology, integrated project management and information solutions to customers working in the oil and gas industry worldwide. Employing approximately 95,000 people, representing over 140 nationalities and working in approximately 85 countries, Schlumberger provides the industry's widest range of products and services from exploration through production. Schlumberger Limited has principal offices in Paris, Houston, London and The Hague, and reported revenues of \$35.47 billion in 2015.

Personal

Mervin is an award-winning Nigerian Energy Professional, a Presidential Scholar, Public Speaker and STEM Ambassador, committed to developing consummate individuals and equipping them with skills critical to thriving in an increasingly dynamic and digital energy economy. She is currently a Completions General Field Engineer, with over 6 years' experience at the world's leading provider of technology for reservoir characterization, drilling, production, and processing to the oil and gas industry, Schlumberger. She has consistently demonstrated the ability to address challenging tasks skilfully, with exceptional natural energy, tireless work ethic, attention to detail and exceeding expectations. Within a few years of working she successfully executed both low & high profile oil and gas well completion projects, across a mix of operating environments, both in Nigeria and the US. She leveraged administrative and technical expertise to build an even stronger competitive advantage. In addition to being an active member of the Energy Institute, Society of Petroleum Engineers, amongst others, she serves on the board of a number of organizations including Innovative Energy Solutions (IES), Bluestockings & Gemstones Initiative, and the Society of Women Engineers' Lagos Affiliate. Having been recognized as an influencer, with an uncanny ability to persuade leaders to address key global challenges, she has been invited to speak at various events and conferences on issues regarding climate change mitigation, STEM education, innovative technologies, clean energy policies and sustainable development, whilst sharing platforms with global leaders. Mervin holds a BEng, with First Class Honors, in Chemical Engineering from the University of Benin, as well as an MSc, with Distinction, in Sustainable Energy Futures, Mechanical Engineering, from the prestigious Imperial College London.



Tomasović, Nikola

Energy consultant, World Energy Council's Serbian Member Committee

Serbia

Organisation

Serbia (at that time part of Yugoslavia) became a member of the World Energy Council in 1924. As one of the WEC's founders, the Yugoslav World Energy Council Member Committee, including high federal government officials and leading experts in all energy sectors, was active all the time on both the local and international scene. At present, the Serbian Member Committee is continuing this practice. Its membership includes individuals from governmental institutions, universities, scientific institutes, energy industries, consulting and other companies, as well as from professional associations in the energy field. The MC collective members take an active part in all energy-related matters in the country.

Personal

Nikola Tomasovic is an energy and climate change specialist with experience and knowledge about energy markets & policy in the European Union and wider, with an academic background in electrical engineering and specialization in energy economics. He has been engaged in development consultancy since 2015. He has worked as an energy consultant with NIRAS International Consulting and GFA Consulting Group previously. He has worked at Energoprojekt-Entel as a project engineer on projects in the Balkans and Middle East. He has also recently become a member of the pool of experts who form the Energy Community Secretariat. He has been a member of the Serbian Member Committee for several years. He participated in the 23rd World Energy Congress in Istanbul as a Congress FEL. In December 2016 he became a member of the Council's, World Energy Scenarios Study Group. He has participated in several regional conferences and workshops and has published several papers on renewable energy deployment and energy policy. He recently participated in the Energy Union Future Leaders' academy organised by the Greek Energy Forum and the European Commission.



Pandya, Deval

Data Scientist, Shell

United States of America

Organisation

Shell is a global group of energy and petrochemical companies with an average of 86,000 employees in more than 70 countries. Shell was formed in 1907 through the amalgamation of the Royal Dutch Petroleum Company of the Netherlands and the "Shell" Transport and Trading Company of the United Kingdom. Shell is vertically integrated and is active in every area of the oil and gas industry, including exploration and production, refining, transport, distribution and marketing, petrochemicals, power generation and trading. It also has renewable energy activities, including in biofuels, wind and hydrogen. Shell's purpose is to power progress together with more and cleaner energy solutions. Shell's core values are honesty, integrity and respect for people.

Personal

Deval Pandya is an early career energy professional who is passionate about the role of digitalization and future of energy. Deval grew up in India understanding the demands of energy systems in a developing country where he completed his undergraduate studies in Mechanical engineering. Deval moved to the United States to pursue higher education. He graduated with a Masters in Aerospace Engineering and a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington. Deval served as a co-chair of Next Generation Scientists for Biodiesel, a student body of National Biodiesel Board during while pursuing his Ph.D. Deval currently works as a Data Scientist in Shell's Advanced Analytics Centre of Excellence. His expertise is in the application of advanced data science methods like machine learning and deep learning for solving energy industry challenges ranging from seismic data processing, predictive maintenance and greenhouse gas accounting. He currently also serves as a mentor at Houston Technology Centre (HTC), a start-up incubator. He advises start-ups in the space of AI and energy for their technology strategy and growth hacking.



Rincon, Gelem Lluberes

Portfolio Management - Energy Management Division, Siemens

Germany

Organisation

Siemens is a global powerhouse focusing on the areas of electrification, automation and digitalisation. One of the world's largest producers of energy-efficient, resource-saving technologies, Siemens is a leading supplier of systems for power generation and transmission as well as medical diagnosis. In infrastructure and industry solutions the company plays a pioneering role. As of September 30, 2014, we had around 343,000 employees in more than 200 countries. In fiscal 2014, they generated revenues of EUR 71.9 billion from continuing operations.

Personal

Gelem is an industrial engineer, dedicated to business development in the Energy Industry with a background in production and organisational processes improvement with over ten years experience. Gelem has extended her skills and knowledge with a Master in Business Administration and Change Management. She has extensive experience implementing new methods and philosophies of work and in managing the change of culture for employees. She is results-oriented, self-motivated, analytical and able to motivate and influence other peers. Gelem believes in teamwork and recognising that team dynamics and diversity improve collaborative problem-solving. Her great interpersonal skills allow her to achieve effective communication with customers and partners. She has gained insight into various economies, social structures and cultures during her previous experiences in Dominican Republic, Spain, Italy and China. In China she was leading the Export department of Siemens largest Power Transformers factory. She is currently heading the Global Business Development department of the Distribution Transformers business of Siemens, based in Germany where she is responsible for over half-a-billion Euros sales worldwide. She also dedicates part of her time to her duties as Diversity Ambassador with a focus on generational and gender balance.



Gicheru, Lois

Founder and CEO, Solafrique

Kenya

Organisation

Solafrique's mission is to have a positive transformation in the region through a pragmatic diversification of their activities, which include: manufacturing ventures, rural banking, rural transportation, wireless communication and, solar energy.

Personal

Lois Gicheru is the Founder and CEO of Solafrique, a company committed to increasing access to electricity in Kenya. She has amassed a wealth of experience, offering energy consultancy services to rural-based commercial entities and is currently spearheading the development of solar microgrids for commercial entities in rural Kenya. Lois is the Deputy Secretary of the World Energy Council Kenya Member Committee and plays an active role in contributing to the implementation of effective energy policy in Kenya. She was awarded the entrepreneur of the year award at the 2016 AEEP stakeholder's forum for her community mini grid model and was also recognized as an upcoming energy leader during President Obama's 2016 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Accounting from Strathmore University and a Certificate in Supply Chain Sustainability from Rutgers University. Her passion is to provide sustainable energy solutions and related services for the off-grid and rural communities in Africa in a bid to attain and advance sustainable livelihoods.



Butacu, Claudiu

Chairman of the Board, Solar Decathlon Bucharest

Romania

Organisation

Solar Decathlon Bucharest NGO is a team full of young researchers from two universities that developed Europe's most sustainable house, EFdeN. The project began with just an idea, but now we have convinced over 130 companies to trust us and invest in a solar house. We have transported our product to France and back and we are now Romania's first research centre for comfort conditions.

Personal

Claudiu Butacu is the president of Solar Decathlon Bucharest. He was appointed on December 30, 2015, as an adviser to the staff of Cristian Buşu, State Secretary of the Ministry of Energy. Claudiu is 27 years old and in the last three years has raised contributions of over 1 million euros for the EFdeN project, an initiative that involved the construction of a solar house as efficient and energy independent as possible. He is a Professional Energy Manager (certified by Schneider Electric University), Sustainability Manager (ECQA – Program LEAD SUS), and is a member of VLER (Future Energy Leaders of Romania – e.n), a program run by the Romanian National Committee of the World Energy Council. Moreover, late last year, he received the Young Energy Professional distinction at energynomics Awards gala. The house created by the team led by Claudiu Butacu became the first research centre in Romania for comfort conditions. As a Sponsorship Coordinator, he is responsible for developing and implementing a long-range corporate giving strategy, to identify, cultivate, solicit and steward relationships with business supporters, fostering a strong worldwide awareness and support and lead a project team which is responsible for the execution of Systems Assembly projects. He had to develop and maintain personal relationships, to ensure that all communication is polite, clear and using the optimum methods. Regarding accountability, he is proactively following up on project milestones internally. He solves project issues before they become problems, manages and co-ordinates the project schedule with the project team to ensure the project is shipped on time and meets customer requirements.



Popkostova, Yana

Founder and Managing Director, The European Centre for Energy and Geopolitical Analysis

France

Organisation

The European Centre for Energy and Geopolitical Analysis (ECEGA) is an independent energy and geopolitical intelligence organisation which explores the intersection of energy and politics in European Union policy-making. The mission of ECEGA is to help policy-makers and business executives manage the risks and capitalise on the opportunities created by the changing energy and geopolitical landscape, and work for the best interests of future generations.

Personal

Yana Popkostova is a policy expert and advisor. She is the founder of the European Centre for Energy and Geopolitical Analysis - a disruptive fusion between an energy think-tank and a consulting firm aiming to catalyse real leadership and meaningful cross-sectoral engagement for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient energy transition. Her research focuses on the spectrum of EU Energy Policies, particularly on the design of pragmatic and scalable decarbonisation solutions. She has previously worked as a policy advisor at the European Parliament, she has been a coordinator of a World Bank-sponsored project and a regulatory consultant in a leading sectoral organisation. She sits on the advisory board of the UN Women's Entrepreneurship Day France and is part of the VoteWatch Europe EU Energy Policy experts pool. Yana holds a Master of Sciences degree with distinction from the London School of Economics. She served on the executive board of the LSE European Society and was awarded a PhiBetaDelta medal for achievements in international education. A passionate believer in the power of self, Yana uses her limitless energy to speak, write, explore synergies, incubate ideas and empower others to engage and shape a better future.



Shimogori, Kei

Researcher, The Institute of Energy Economics, Japan

Japan

Organisation

The Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ), carries out research activities specialising in the area of energy from the viewpoint of the national economy. This is done in a bid to contribute to the sound development of the Japanese energy-supplying and energy-consuming industries and for the improvement of people's lives in the country by objectively analysing energy problems and providing basic data, information and reports necessary for the formulation of policies. With the diversification of social needs, IEEJ has expanded its scope of research activities to include such topics as environmental problems and international cooperation closely related to energy.

Personal

Kei Shimogori is a Researcher for the Nuclear Energy Group of the Strategy Research Unit at the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan (IEEJ). Her current research focuses on nuclear energy policy and developments in Japan and the world, as well as energy policy of European countries. During her time at IEEJ, she has developed an interest in issues related to developing and maintaining nuclear energy under the competitive markets and has written about electricity market reform and nuclear power in the United Kingdom. She has provided monthly analytical articles on European energy topics since April 2015. She received B.L. in International Law from Waseda University in 2010 and MPP in International public policy from Graduate School of Public Policy, the University of Tokyo in 2012.



Irany, Reem

Energy Engineer, The Lebanese Centre for Energy Conservation

Lebanon

Organisation

The Lebanese Centre for Energy Conservation (LCEC) is the national energy agency for Lebanon. It is the technical arm of the Ministry of Energy and Water in all subjects related to energy efficiency and renewable energy. LCEC works on setting national strategies and action plans to be adopted by the Government of Lebanon.

Personal

Reem holds a Bachelor Degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the American University of Beirut (AUB). After graduation, she explored the lighting industry and the latest advancements in the field to design energy efficient solutions for different types of projects. Aspiring to broaden her expertise in the energy field and to contribute in promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency, Reem moved to the Lebanese Centre for Energy Conservation (LCEC) in October 2014. She was part of the technical support unit to the Central Bank of Lebanon which was in charge of the technical evaluation of green projects under the NEEREA financing mechanism. She also assisted in the development of a solar thermal ordinance for local authorities under the MED-DESIRE European Project. Reem was heavily involved in the preparation of tender documents related to grid-scale solar PV projects under the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). She is currently leading the implementation of solar PV projects in public buildings, including tendering, evaluation, supervision, testing and, commissioning and reporting. Part of her work is also the supervision of solar pumping and solar street lighting projects throughout Lebanon.



Concha Mandujano, Santiago

Lawyer, Transelec S.A.

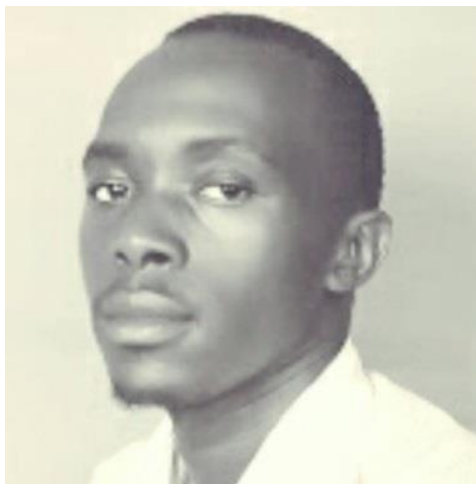
Chile

Organisation

Transelec is the leading high-voltage power transmission system supplier in Chile and the most important power transmission company in the country, with 9,648 kilometres of power transmission lines which are part of Chile's National Power Grid and have transformation capacity that amounts to 16,321 MVA, supplying power to 98% of Chile's population. Throughout its corporate history, Transelec has gained extensive experience with each of the links comprising the chain of value for the power transmission industry. Ranging from project evaluation, conceptual and basic engineering, power transmission and connection design to project management and construction, consultancy for commissioning, operation, maintenance and administration of new facilities. Transelec contributes its extensive experience and knowledge of power projects to a wide range of customers in the power, mining and industrial sectors throughout Chile. These customers trust in the support and excellence provided by the Company's integral power transmission solutions.

Personal

Santiago Concha is a 29-year-old Lawyer practising since 2014. He has worked in the Cabinet of the Vice Ministry of Transport and at Transelec S.A., the biggest transmission company of Chile for almost four years. Working at Transelec has provided him with the opportunity to have a first-hand experience of the electric industry of Chile, as well as other countries. At Transelec, the different tasks he had to handle have given him a wide vision of the industry. He has participated in different litigation procedures; collaborated in projects development, participated in its different instances (from financial aspects, application of permits and right of ways, interconnection contracts, community matters, etc.); public tenders; mergers and acquisitions of assets; corporate practice; study and analysis of different international markets; assumed an important role in the internationalisation of the company and finally, regulatory matters of Chile and Perú (normative procedures, pricing process, expansion process, etc.).



Asinge, Noah

Information and Partnerships Officer, Uganda National Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Uganda

Organisation

Uganda National Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Alliance (UNREEEA) is a network of over 360 member companies in the biomass, hydro, solar and energy efficiency sub-sectors of Uganda. It has a mission to consolidate leadership and further improve the business environment for the renewable energy and the energy efficiency sub-sector as well as contribute to sustainable development in Uganda and East Africa.

Personal

Noah Asinge's passion for Environmentalism began in primary and high school, where he was very active in the environmental club - a member as well as a leader. This continued up to university level. As a member of the Climate Change Club while at Makerere University, Noah Asinge participated in most of its awareness activities, like nature walks and climate change exhibitions which included showcasing renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies to the public. His love for renewable energy as an environmental field was triggered in his second year at the university when he participated in the Global Energy Initiative's activities as its pioneer Chapter President at Makerere University. Through community outreach programs, this programme promoted clean and energy efficient wood cookstoves in the cattle corridor region of Uganda. He has also worked with the Joint Energy and Environment Projects (JEEP), a local NGO that promotes renewable energy and energy efficiency, with a major focus on clean cooking and household lighting. He is currently working with the secretariat of UNREEEA to create a good business environment for increased clean energy access.



Akilu, Mekalia Paulos

Researcher, UNECA

Ethiopia

Organisation

The African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) is a hub for demand-led knowledge generation on climate change in Africa. We are an African centre addressing the need for greatly improved climate information for Africa and strengthening the use of such information for decision making, by improving analytical capacity, knowledge management and dissemination activities.

Personal

Mekalia is a researcher at the African Climate Policy Centre of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), with expertise in the areas of energy policy, climate change policy, and sustainable development. She is a core member of the Energy and Technology cluster, working on energy policy and regulatory frameworks in Africa, African renewable energy initiatives and supporting African Small Island Developing States in gauging their potential for renewables to harness opportunities for further development in accelerating their uptake of renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions. Her passion is sustainable energy policy/development and finding solutions to the triple challenges of energy security, energy equity and environmental sustainability. She has contributed to and written various publications on sustainable energy and climate change issues, such as off-grid renewables, the energy revolution and transitioning to a low carbon development pathway and transformative financing of renewable energy development, among others. Mekalia holds a Master's degree in International Political Economy & Development from Erasmus International Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, as well as a Bachelor's degree in Business Management & Public Administration, Ethiopia.



Alonso Suarez, Rodrigo

Assistant Professor, Researcher, Consultant, Universidad de la República

Uruguay

Organisation

Universidad de la República (UdelaR) is Uruguay's main higher education and research Institution. The Solar Energy Laboratory (LES) is a research-oriented laboratory of this University that is focused on solar energy assessment and its applications and provides services and technical consultancies for the sector.

Personal

Rodrigo Alonso-Suárez holds a PhD in the Solar Energy field and an Electrical Engineering degree from Uruguay's national university (UdelaR). He has made key contributions to the development of solar energy applications, including the development of satellite-based models for solar resource assessment, leading to accurate solar potential maps and other inputs required in solar energy design. He is a co-founder of the Solar Energy Laboratory (LES) at UdelaR, a research-oriented laboratory that provides services and technical consultancies for the solar energy sector. He has been main Project Manager in the development of a solar water heater efficiency test facility, financed by the local energy authority, which is unique in his country. Dr Alonso holds a permanent position as Assistant Professor at UdelaR and is the head of the solar resource assessment and forecasting group at LES. He manages several research projects in solar energy topics and has participated in several solar energy and renewable grid-integration initiatives. He has authored 20 peer-reviewed journals and conference articles and has been a speaker at several international and national conferences on the subject.



Sharir-Grebel, Efrat

Senior Investment Analyst, Equinor Energy Ventures

Israel

Organisation

Equinor, formerly Statoil, is an international energy company. Equinor has over 20,000 employees developing oil, gas, wind, and solar energy in more than 30 countries worldwide. Equinor is the largest operator in Norway, among the largest offshore operators, and a growing force in renewables energising the lives of 170 million people every day. Equinor's activities are managed through eight business areas, staffs, and support divisions, and have operations in North and South America, Africa, Asia, Europe, and Oceania, and Norway.

Personal

Efrat has extensive experience in the energy sector, specialising in international business development, strategy, and finance. She is currently working at Equinor Energy Ventures in London, as a Senior Investment Analyst. In her previous role, Efrat worked at Equinor's corporate strategy. Before joining Equinor, Efrat worked at Vedanta Resources as a Strategy Management Consultant at the Chairman Office in London and was a Business Development Manager at Israel Opportunity Oil and Gas Exploration Ltd, operating mainly in the Eastern Mediterranean. She also served as the International and Governmental Relations Manager at the Association of Oil and Gas Exploration Industries in Israel. Efrat also held several positions in Infosys, Citibank, Access Corporate Finance, and the unit for Social Involvement in Tel Aviv University. Efrat holds a MBA from London Business School and a BA in Economics and East Asia Studies majoring in China history and Mandarin.



Kämmer, Jan Daniel

Sales Director North LatAm, Vestas Wind Systems A/S

Mexico

Organisation

Vestas is the only global energy company dedicated exclusively to wind energy - improving business case certainty and reducing the cost of energy for our customers. Our core business is the development, manufacturing, sale and maintenance of wind power plants with competencies that cover every aspect of the value chain from site studies to service and maintenance. Vestas has a proven track record with 64,000MWs delivered over 73 countries.

Personal

In nine years in the renewable energy sector, Jan Daniel has held various positions at Vestas, one of the leading wind turbine suppliers. Based in Mexico City for the past six years, he continuously advanced in commercial roles up to his current position as Sales Director where he is responsible for the Caribbean, Central America as well as the Andean countries in South America. During this time, Jan Daniel has successfully led multi-disciplinary teams that won several hundred of MW in contracts for wind energy projects in a range of countries in Latin America. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Renewable Energy Association SER in Colombia. Prior to moving to Mexico, he worked in Denmark as the Executive Assistant to the then Chief Financial Officer of Vestas. Jan Daniel holds a Master's degree in International Business from Rotterdam School of Business (Netherlands) and Bocconi University (Italy) and finally, took an Executive Management course at IPADE Business School (Mexico). Jan Daniel is passionate about the role of renewable energy in the transformation of the energy sector.



Kujala, Saara

Development Manager, IPP Development, South East Asia & Australia,
Wartsila Development

Finland

Organisation

Wärtsilä is a global leader in advanced technologies and complete lifecycle solutions for the marine and energy markets. By emphasising sustainable innovation and total efficiency, Wärtsilä maximises the environmental and economic performance of the vessels and power plants of its customers. In 2015, Wärtsilä's net sales totalled EUR 5 billion with approximately 18,800 employees. The company has operations in over 200 locations in more than 70 countries around the world. Wärtsilä is listed on Nasdaq Helsinki.

Personal

Ms Kujala (Master of Science in Technology) is a professional independent power plant (IPP) developer with drive and excitement to lead challenging, sustainable clean energy and electricity projects. Ms Kujala is responsible for initiating and managing IPP projects, including small-scale LNG to Power projects for Wärtsilä Energy Solutions in South East Asia and Australia. She is currently leading the development of several IPP and LNG to Power projects in Indonesia and Myanmar and has demonstrated her ability in leading complex projects and in successfully doing business in South East Asia. In addition, she has extensive experience in energy market development, including quantitative analysis and optimisation of power generation systems with flexible power generation capacity. She is a frequent speaker in energy conferences and seminars.



Walsh, Richard E.

Program Lead, Clean Energy Solutions, WGL Holdings

United States of America

Organisation

WGL Energy is the unregulated subsidiary of WGL Holdings, Inc., a public utility holding company. WGL Energy is a leader in efficient and environmentally-friendly energy technology solutions to residential, government, commercial and industrial customers. They deliver a full spectrum of energy solutions, including electricity, natural gas, renewable energy, carbon reduction, distributed generation and energy efficiency provided by WGL Energy Services, Inc. and WGL Energy Systems, Inc.

Personal

Rich Walsh manages the clean energy program at WGL Energy Services and WGL Energy Systems (WGL Energy) (These companies trade under their holding company, NYSE: WGL). WGL Energy's portfolio includes distributed generation projects in 18 states totalling over 170 MW and its retail groups have contracts in place with the General Services Administration, the State of Maryland and dozens of Fortune 500 Companies. Outside of his work with WGL Energy, Rich was selected as a member of the World Energy Council's Global Future Energy Leaders 100 Programme, he is on the board of Young Professionals in Energy NYC Chapter, he is a member of the steering committee for the American Council on Renewable Energy's Partnership for Renewable Energy Finance (ACORE PREF); and he is active with the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) serving on the SEIA project finance and real estate subcommittees. Rich is a graduate of Samford University where he studied Finance and Spanish and was captain of the Men's Tennis team.



Baral, Prajwal

Independent Consultant

Nepal

Organisation

Personal

Mr Baral is an international climate change and energy expert whose research spans impact investment, development finance, innovation, and technology commercialisation. He has consulted for a number of organisations worldwide, including the World Bank (Washington, D.C.), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) (Geneva.), CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change and Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). Mr Baral has worked extensively on participatory, ground-up projects in the hinterlands of Nepal and India and has published policy papers on international climate agreement, climate change adaptation, climate finance, and trade in energy. Mr Baral is a member of the Royal Institute for International Affairs (Chatham House), London, and a non-resident research fellow at the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS), Nairobi. He has an academic background in Electronics and Communication Engineering from Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology (MANIT), India, and Environmental Management from the University of Oxford.

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