



SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY FOR ALL

ENERGY ACCESS
PRACTITIONER NETWORK

November, 2014

Energy Access Practitioner Network - monthly call summary

Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) Updates

SE4ALL is planning on holding an Africa Forum, provisionally set for Tanzania mid-February 2015, as well as the SE4ALL Annual Forum, planned for New York, NY in May 2015. Details forthcoming.

Energy for Women & Children's Health initiative update, by Jem Porcaro, Senior Director, Energy Access, UN Foundation

- [The Energy and Women's Health HIO](#), focusing on the electrification of medical clinics in sub-Saharan Africa, co-led by the UN Foundation, WHO and UN Women, continues to make progress in Ghana, Malawi, and Uganda. Sierra Leone and Liberia are currently on hold due to the Ebola outbreak.
- November marks the mid-point of the initiative. The data mapping exercise for the electrification status of medical clinics is nearly complete in the three countries.
- We have also completed field technician training for energy audits in Uganda, and are conducting similar ones in Malawi and Ghana.
- These will be followed by energy audits in the next couple months, as well as feasibility studies for mini-grids.
- The HIO will be using the research to help assess appropriate business models and technologies that will serve the electrification needs of medical facilities in the countries of focus. For more information, contact Jem at jporcaro@unfoundation.org.

Clean Energy Mini-Grids High Impact Opportunity (HIO) update, by Yasemin Erboy Ruff, Senior Associate, Energy and Climate, UN Foundation

- The HIO held its first committee meeting, open to external members of the HIO, preceding the conference on commercially operating mini-grid systems organized by the UN Foundation, USAID, the World Bank, and the U.S. Department State on October 16-17, 2014. The meeting served as a means for stakeholders in the HIO to be introduced to one another, and for the HIO to begin solidifying its activities under the five objectives going forward. If you are interested in the meeting notes, please email Yasemin at yerboy@unfoundation.org.
- The UN Foundation and the Alliance for Rural Electrification are also in the planning stages for a mini-grids mapping exercise, which is expected to focus on donor mapping in the first phase.
- If you are interested in the HIO or would like to become a member, please visit the HIO [webpage](#).

Overview of the SE4ALL Action Agenda Process in Africa, by Daniel Schroth, African Development Bank, d.schroth@afdb.org

- So far 43 African countries have opted into the SE4ALL initiative, with Egypt being the latest country to formally join.
- This year, AfDB has been working on the coherence and structure to the country action process, including country action reference documents and action agendas, particularly to facilitate government implementation of the SE4ALL goals at the national level.
- The action agendas are in different stages of development, and are conducted as an inclusive process involving not only energy stakeholders but also relevant ministries, civil society and the private sector.
- ECOWAS countries are on their way in the process, as well as notable countries including Uganda, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya and Rwanda. Requests have also been received from Malawi, Zimbabwe and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- Challenges in the action agenda process include making all action agendas synergistic, maintaining inclusivity, ensuring that the quality of documents being produced is consistent among the countries and enables on-the-ground activities at the national level, and conducting structured follow-ups to all areas under each action agenda including target support on specific areas of focus in each country context.

The Green Mini-Grid Market Development Component Concept Note, by Daniel Schroth, AfDB

- Within the context of the Clean Energy Mini-grids HIO, the Green Mini-grid Facility led by [Dfid](#) to increase the rollout of mini-grids, challenges have been identified as:
 - Lack of policy and regulatory support
 - Market fragmentation
 - Capacity issues
 - Lack of proven business models
 - Access to affordable finance.
- The DFID program consists of the following main components:
 - Country programs on mini-grid development
 - Market Development
 - Enabling environment, access to finance.
 - Beneficiaries would be project implementers, technology providers, the public sector and finance institutions, in a “Lighting Africa for mini-grids” model.
 - Evaluation
 - Action learning and knowledge exchange will be carried out by ESMAP.
- The Green Mini-grid Facility will address the following:
 - Market intelligence: commercial viability, IT platform for networking and best practices.
 - Business development support: advisory desk for businesses, facilitate interface with governments.
 - Policy and regulatory assistance: advisory desk to assist governments with issues related to mini-grids.
 - Quality assurance: enabling industry associations and standards labs to create technology and performance standards for mini-grid components, and facilitating grid connectivity.

- Access to finance: market opportunities for financing by commercial banks, establishing financing structures with mitigation instruments, and matchmaking.

The Green Mini-Grid Market Development Component Concept Note is attached to the call summary email. Please forward any input and suggestions to Daniel at d.schroth@afdb.org by the end of November.

Practitioner Presentations

Daniel Zywietz, [Enerwhere](http://Enerwhere.com), Daniel@enerwhere.com

- Enerwhere is a commercial provider of solar mini-grids based in the United Arab Emirates.
- Enerwhere's vision was to become the world's first solar rental company, but found that it is difficult to implement solar if clients are not aware of how it works, so Enerwhere transitioned to providing a whole package of services on a temporary basis.
- This allows for rapid installation, and overcomes the investment disincentive of expectations for future grid connectivity and/or cheaper electricity alternatives, as the payback requirements of the systems can be spread over multiple projects in different locations with the transportable nature of the system.
- Enerwhere has two mini-grids installed in the UAE to test and demonstrate the technology. The company's pipeline focuses on the commercial industrial segment (e.g. hospitals and universities) as they believe it to be more scalable, involving system sizes from 50kW to 10MW.
- Enerwhere is looking into Afghanistan and Tanzania, sees a significant pipeline in the UAE, and high potential in various parts of Africa.

Juliana Baumgartl, [Smart Hydro Power GmbH](http://SmartHydroPower.com), Juliana.Baumgartl@smart-hydro.de

- Smart Hydro Power is based in Germany and develops and commercializes hydro-kinetic turbines of 5kW, which are hybrid systems with solar panels.
- Smart Hydro Power also provides training to those who buy the turbines for installation.
- The company is active in Africa with 13 turbines installed in Nigeria and 30 turbines about to be installed in Tanzania. Their turbines are also being used in Peru to help with drying cocoa beans, and they have installations in Colombia and other parts of Latin America.

Liisa Anderson, [MicroEnergy International GmbH](http://MicroEnergyInternational.com), Liisa.Andersson@microenergy-international.com

- The [MES2015 Conference](#) will be focusing on decentralized energy supply, to be held in April 2015 in Bangalore, India.
- Keynote speakers will include the chairman of IPCC, Dr. Rajendra K. Pachauri, and Director of Renewable and Appropriate Energy Laboratory (RAEL), Dr. Dan Kammen.
- If you would like to present a business plan or a paper at the conference please submit it by Friday, November, 21.

Events

Be sure to visit our [News](#) and [Events](#) pages to stay informed on all the latest developments and opportunities!

Practitioner Network webinar “energy access in Peru”, Nov. 18 & 19 at 9:30AM EST

- The webinar will explore the residual energy access issues in Peru in the run up to the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties that will be held in Peru next month. The webinar will showcase efforts underway to increase energy access in Peru with four presenters:
 - David Orosco, Director of the World Bank’s Project for Rural Electrification in Peru
 - Rafael Escobar, Energy Program Manager, Practical Action Peru
 - Carmen Becerril, President, ACCIONA Microenergía
 - Christopher Jensen, Regional Operational Manager, Light Up The World
- The webinar is the first effort from the Practitioner Network and the Clean Energy Solutions Center to provide training materials to practitioners in multiple languages, and will be held twice—once in English and once in Spanish—to accommodate the audience. To register, please visit the webinar [webpage](#).

“ADB’s Energy for All Program: Insights and lessons learned”, hosted by the United Nations Foundation and the Asian Development Bank’s North American Representative Office, Nov. 19, Washington, DC

- Please see the invitation attached to the call summary for more information on the event and registration instructions.

Africa Mini-grid Summit, Nov. 18-19, Nairobi, Kenya

- The Summit will feature the launch by ARE President Ernesto Macías of the new “[Mini-grid Policy Toolkit: Policy and Business Frameworks for Successful Mini-grid Roll-outs](#)” in Africa. This Africa-focused publication, which helps policy makers to navigate the mini-grid policy design, was developed by the EUEI PDF under the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP), REN21 and ARE.

“Exploiting Opportunities in Renewable Energy & Rural Electrification in Kenya”, the Government of Kenya, EUEI PDF, Practical Action, the Alliance for Rural Electrification, Nov. 28, Nairobi, Kenya

- This event will bring together a number of regional, international and local non-state stakeholders to discuss priority areas of Kenya's energy strategy in the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) process. This is part of a series of energy business dialogue forums taking place at the national level in Africa.
- The draft agenda and concept note can be found [here](#).
- To register, kindly provide your name, organization, position, e-mail, telephone number and address to l.ng@ruralelec.org and eve.odete@practicalaction.or.ke.
- For more information, please refer to the invitation attached to the call summary.

UNFCCC COP20 Lima, Peru, 1-12 December 2014

- We will be hosting an energy access event on the 12th. If you will be attending the COP, and would like to participate in the side event, please e-mail Madhavi Ganeshan at mganeshan@unfoundation.org.

Upcoming events in the new year

- World Future Energy Summit (WFES), Abu Dhabi, 19-22 January 2015
- 15th Delhi Sustainable Development Summit, 5-7 February 2015
- Vienna Energy Forum, 18-20 June, 2015

Practitioner Updates

- Ellen Morris, ellen@embarkenergy.com: [Embark Energy](#) now has a business training program launched in partnership with the Climate Innovation Center in Kenya, an entity that seeks to incubate “environment friendly” entrepreneurs. Embark’s web-based business training will be used to work with clean energy entrepreneurs involved in the program.

Call for suggestions for the Practitioner Network in 2015

- As we are planning out our activities for the Practitioner Network for 2015, we welcome suggestions from all our members on:
 - What you would like to see our work focus on,
 - How you would like to engage further with the Practitioner Network in the coming year,
 - What services we can provide to facilitate your work,
 - Ongoing needs of the sector that we can either address directly or through our various partners,
 - What the Practitioner Network is doing well that you would like to see more of, so we can ensure to continue these activities and improve on them.
- For suggestions and input, please contact Yasemin at yerboy@unfoundation.org.

Energy Access Practitioner Network infographic – “Growing the Network: Building Impact”

- The results of our annual survey this year are now presented in an infographic that outlines the energy access issue, and provides talking points on showing scale in the decentralized energy sector. The infographic is attached to the call summary and can also be accessed on our [website](#). Please circulate widely and use in your own messaging around energy access and your Practitioner Network membership.