



SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY FOR ALL

ENERGY ACCESS
PRACTITIONER NETWORK

Newsletter - January 2017



From the United Nations Foundation

Going Further, Faster - Together

Dear Friends,

In September 2015, the world agreed on a set of universal Sustainable Development Goals. One of those goals [SDG 7](#) seeks to ensure affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

In December 2015, in Paris, 195 nations negotiated an historic [climate agreement](#) to keep the increase in global temperatures “well below 2 °C” and strive to do better. On November 4, 2016, the Paris Agreement on climate change entered into force.

Promises made must be promises kept.

Sustainable Energy for All and the United Nations Foundation have been partners on this journey from its very inception, and we are reaffirming our commitment to work together toward achievement of SDG 7.

Going forward, the UN Foundation is aligning its activities even more closely around Sustainable Energy for All's Strategic Framework for Results (2016-21) Going Further, Faster, Together. By doing so, we will gain from synergies in our two programs, leverage our respective resources, and create greater focus and impact in our efforts to accelerate progress.

The Energy Access Practitioner Network was one of the earliest fruits of that partnership. It provides a vital communications link between Sustainable Energy for All and the Network's more than 2,400 members, who are doing the work every day of reaching SDG 7. We look forward to engaging Network members together in new ways to advocate for specific change, engage in processes that move action forward, support investment and provision of energy services, and achieve results.

As a global platform, Sustainable Energy for All empowers leaders to broker partnerships and unlock finance to achieve universal access to sustainable energy, as a contribution to a cleaner, just and prosperous world for all. Looking forward to the continuation of our close relationship with the United Nations under new Secretary-General António Guterres, we will pursue our climate and development goals with new vigor together.

The clean energy transition offers us an historic opportunity for economic growth, development and job creation and we must leave no one behind.

In our shared and unwavering commitment to move toward this better world, Sustainable Energy for All exists to help leaders go further, faster together. The UN Foundation is proud to be deepening our partnership and excited about the opportunities ahead.

Sincerely,



Rachel Kyte
*Chief Executive
Officer*
Sustainable Energy
for All



Elizabeth Cousens
*Deputy Chief
Executive Officer*
United Nations
Foundation

★ TOP STORIES

[Sustainable Energy For All Forum Set For 3-5 April in New York City](#)

The [Sustainable Energy for All Forum](#) is the landmark gathering celebrating the global sustainable energy movement. Over 1,000 high-level representatives from government, business, civil society and international organizations will gather in New York City for the 3rd Sustainable Energy for All Forum, its theme being “Going Further, Faster - Together.”

[OPIC and MNRE Launch \\$20 Million Indian Clean Energy Fund](#)

U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation ([OPIC](#)) has partnered with India’s Ministry for New and Renewable Energy ([MNRE](#)) to launch the US-India Clean Energy Finance (USICEF) Facility, a \$20 million fund designed to spur wider public and private financing for renewable power generation in India. OPIC had previously committed \$74 million to a 100 MW solar PV project in India’s Telangana state, and sees USICEF as an ideal opportunity to support additional financing for solar projects right across India.

[AfDB Provides Support for Tanzania's Off-Grid Energy Plans; Approves Africa Renewable Energy Initiative](#)

The African Development Bank ([AfDB](#)) has approved a \$870,000 grant to promote off-grid electricity generation in Tanzania under the [Sustainable Energy for Africa](#) facility, which is funded by the governments of Denmark, the UK, the US and Italy. The resources will go towards funding private sector clean energy projects, with a view to improving access to electricity in rural areas.

[Green Climate Fund Boost to Allow for More Integration of Renewable Energy in Pacific Region](#)

The Green Climate Fund ([GCF](#)) recently approved grants to support the Asian Development Bank’s ([ADB](#)) proposed Pacific Islands Renewable Energy Investment Programme, which intends to boost the use of renewable energy in the region. The program involves Papua New Guinea, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands, Nauru, Samoa and Tonga an approved total of US\$17 million, with US\$12 million for the Cook Islands to expand its renewable energy grid, while the rest is committed to developing energy plans, implementing reforms and encourage the investment and participation of the private sector in the industry in the other countries. The Pacific Islands Renewable Energy Investment Programme also intends to conduct feasibility studies for mini-grid projects, solar, wind, and hydropower and energy storage at a cost of around US\$400 million.

[Read more](#)

FUNDING & INVESTMENT

[Microsoft Renews its Affordable Access Initiative \(AAI\) Grand Fund | Closing Soon](#)

[SNV RBF Round 3: Application for Pico-Solar PV Suppliers | Closing Soon](#)

[IRENA/ADFD Project Facility Fifth Annual Funding Cycle Now Open | Deadline February 15](#)

[Read more](#)

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

[Off Grid Electric Raises \\$7.5 Million to Expand in Rwanda](#)

[\\$10.5 Million More for d.light Brings Its Total Off-Grid Solar Funding to Over \\$40 Million in Four Months](#)

[Solar Sister Enters New Phase of Partnership with the US State Department's wPOWER Program](#)

[SOLARKIOSK Announces Inauguration of the Connected Solar Clinic to Enhance Healthcare in Refugee Populated Al-Mafraq, Jordan](#)

[PEG to Reward Solar Customers with Free Insurance Cover](#)

[Orb Energy Celebrates 10-Year Anniversary](#)

[Read more](#)

NEW TOOLS & RESOURCES

[Off-Grid Energy Market Opportunity Tool](#)

This tool was established by the International Finance Corporation ([IFC](#)) to help sectoral players private companies, government and their development partners, academia and civil society quickly develop a high level view of where markets for off-grid electrification may exist to better inform decision making. The tool is offered as an open source public good incorporating open data only. This results in limited levels of detail and accuracy in the outputs that it generates by default. However these 'default mode' limitations are countered by the fact that the tool offers users and developers the ability to (i) improve on the tool's functionalities by building on its code and (ii) produce more accurate results by exporting the results and mixing it with other data. The geographical focus is currently limited to Sub-Saharan Africa but may be expanded in the future.

Climatescope 2016

This year's Climatescope provides an interactive analysis of 58 emerging markets in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. Conducted by the Multilateral Investment Fund of the Inter-American Development Bank and Bloomberg New Energy Finance ([BNEF](#)), it reports investment in utility-scale solar in the Climatescope nations spiked 43 per cent to \$71.8bn in 2015. Climatescope stresses that the 58 countries are not waiting to get started on adding renewable capacity between them, they added 69.8 GW of new wind, solar, geothermal, and other renewable power generating capacity in 2015. Climatescope also found that cheap solar, innovative business models and a new breed of entrepreneurs are revolutionizing how energy access issues are addressed in least developed nations.

To analyze more than 800 policies intended to spur clean energy development in the nations and states surveyed by Climatescope, visit www.global-climatescope.org.

[Read more](#)

SPOTLIGHT

Member Spotlight: ILUMEXICO

Did you know there are more than 400k families in Mexico who don't have access to electricity?

In Mexico, 3% of the population spread across forty-thousand rural communities rely on diesel and candles as their lighting sources, spending almost 8 to 15 USD per month for fuel as a result of this lack of access to modern energy.

These communities have small populations and are located in remote and highly marginalized areas, making it very expensive and difficult to access the national electricity grid. Fortunately, many of these communities do have access to affordable, reliable and clean solar energy ILUMEXICO has, to date, established more than 7,700 solar installations across Mexico, helping more than 34,000 family members.



Las Margaritas, Chiapas, Mexico
Photo Credit: Luisa Martinez, Project Management ILUMEXICO

[Read more](#)

SECTOR NEWS

Bloomberg
[Solar Could Beat Coal to Become the Cheapest Power on Earth](#)

Sustainable Energy for All
[Africa's Energy Surge](#)

The Huffington Post
[The Electrification of Africa Through Renewable Energy Sources: Bridging the Gap](#)

GROWING THE NETWORK

Welcome to the following organizations that have joined the Practitioner Network in the past month:

Argentina
Secretaria de Medio Ambiente de la Municipalidad del Pilar
(Environmental Secretary of the Municipality of Pilar)

Medium
[Mini-Grids: Towards a Scalable Model](#)

Forbes
[What Does the Trump Administration Mean for Power Africa?](#)

Microgrid Media
[Bangladesh Emerges as a Hotbed for Solar Microgrids, P2P Energy Trading](#)

Vuphong Asia
[Off-Grid Solar to Help Myanmar Bring Electricity to All by 2030](#)

Microgrid Media
[Mobile Pay-Go Solar Hits the Ground Running in Rural Nicaragua, Panama](#)

[Read more](#)

Burkina Faso
[VOLTATIC](#)

Hong Kong
[AgSol](#)

India
[Mitva Solar](#)

Malaysia
[Energy Action Partners](#)

Nigeria
Astra Lonos Capital
[Astrum Energy Solutions Ltd.](#)

Pakistan
[IEEE Karachi Section Special Interest Group for Humanitarian Technologies National Integrated Development Association \(NIDA-Pakistan\)](#)

United Kingdom
[Evans Engineering](#)

United States
Air ERA Technologies, LLC
[Microgrid Labs Inc.](#)
[RTI International](#)
[Quick Electricity](#)

NEW ENERGY ACCESS REPORTS

Bloomberg New Energy Finance
[World Off-Grid and Mini-Grid: Q1 2017 Market Outlook](#)

World Resources Institute
[Stimulating Pay-as-you-go Energy Access in Kenya and Tanzania: The Role of Development Finance](#)

IRENA
[REThinking Energy 2017: Accelerating the Global Energy Transformation](#)

ODI
[Aligning Objectives: International Climate Commitments and National Energy Strategies](#)

[Read more](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

[Power Tech Africa 2017](#)

[Enlightening the Migration Debate: The Importance of Sustainable Energy Access](#)

[Sustainable Energy Southern Africa Forum of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership](#)

January 30-31
Nairobi, Kenya

January 31
Brussels, Belgium

January 31 -
February 2
Lusaka, Zambia

DistribuTECH

January 31 - February
2
Brussels, Belgium

RE-Invest India

February 15-17
New Delhi, India

**Women in Energy
Conference**

February 20
Johannesburg, South
Africa

Africa Energy Indaba

February 21-22, 2017
Johannesburg, South
Africa

**4th Sankalp Africa
Summit 2017**

February 23-27
Nairobi, Kenya

**World Sustainable
Energy Days 2017**

March 1-3
Wels, Austria

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OUR NEWSLETTER**

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communication team

www.energyaccess.org



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