



SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY FOR ALL

ENERGY ACCESS
PRACTITIONER NETWORK

Newsletter - February 2017



From the United Nations Foundation

Dear Friends,

The Practitioner Network has hit the ground running in 2017. We started the year off by [reaffirming](#) our collaboration with Sustainable Energy for All ([SEforALL](#)). One of the first areas where we are working more closely is the upcoming [Sustainable Energy for All Forum](#), updated details for which are provided in this newsletter edition. The UN Foundation team is assisting SEforALL in the preparation of the Forum in a number of ways, and plans to launch the results of our 2016 annual survey as part of the Forum proceedings. We hope to see many of our members there – please follow [this link](#) to register for the Forum as a Practitioner Network member if you have not done so already.

We are also using the new year to launch a new and improved webinar format. Moving forward, our webinars will be organized around a series of topics that are designed to be more dynamic and demand-driven while providing the opportunity to delve deeper into specific issues of concern. As you know, January marked the beginning of our best practices webinar series, focusing on productive uses (access the webinar materials [here](#)). In February, we will be continuing our powering healthcare series, with a conversation on Powering Healthcare: Approaches to Delivering Sustainable Energy Solutions in the Health Sector. In April, we will be launching a new webinar series focusing on financing for energy access – be on the lookout for more details shortly. And of course, we will continue our country-focused webinar series throughout the year, with plans to focus on West and East African countries.

The Practitioner Network – and our team at the UN Foundation more broadly – has also [welcomed new leadership this month](#), with Pete Ogden, formerly Senior Fellow for International Energy and Climate Policy at the Center for American Progress, and Senior Advisor and Fellow at the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago, now serving as our Vice President for Energy, Climate and the Environment. Pete will serve as chief strategist for the UN Foundation's work with the UN and other partners to combat climate change, promote sustainable energy solutions, and advance critical environmental priorities. Our former Vice President, Reid Detchon, will serve in a new role as Senior Advisor for Climate Solutions.

Finally, it has been a pleasure to see 2017 start off so well for the distributed energy sector as a whole, as evidenced by this newsletter edition which showcases new funding opportunities, including a second call for proposals from [ElectriFI](#), as well as success stories from a number of our members. As always, we continue to look to our diverse membership to inform our work on a continuous basis – if you have any suggestions or comments, please feel free to reach out to us via info@energyaccess.org.

Sincerely,



Jem Porcaro
Senior Director, Energy Access
United Nations Foundation

★ TOP STORIES

[Sustainable Energy For All Forum Announces First Round of 2017 Speakers](#)

The 3rd [Sustainable Energy for All Forum](#) has announced its first round of speakers that will address this year's summit, featuring an array of high-profile leaders from government, business, civil society and international organizations who are all helping accelerate progress on Sustainable Development Goal 7.

[Nigeria Bank of Industry Announces Funding for Mobile Pay-As-You-Go & Solar Micro-Grids](#)

As part of its Green Energy Project with the UN Development Program ([UNDP](#)), Nigeria's Bank of Industry ([BOI](#)) recently launched a 1 billion nara (US\$3.1 million) off-grid solar energy fund. The bank will lend and/or invest the fund's capital on favorable, concessionary terms to qualified businesses installing mobile pay-go and other forms of off-grid solar energy systems and services across the country, according to a [news report](#).

[Tata Power Solar Hits 1GW PV Module Shipment Milestone](#)

Major Indian firm [Tata Power Solar](#), a subsidiary of the Tata Group, has become the first Indian manufacturer to achieve the 1GW milestone in terms of PV module shipments worldwide. The figure was achieved over a period of 27 years, although 60% of the shipments came in the last five years alone. Tata modules have now been shipped to more than 30 countries.

[Samsung India Launches Solar-Powered Refrigerators & Air Conditioning Units that Cool 43% Faster](#)

[Samsung India](#) has launched a new line of refrigerators and air conditioners that are tailor-made for Indian conditions. Samsung's new refrigerators run on solar power, while the new range of air conditioners cools 43% faster.

[Read more](#)

💰 FUNDING & INVESTMENT

[Launch of the ENEA Access Call for Projects 2017 | Closing Soon](#)

[ElectriFI Launches its Second Call for Investment Proposals | Deadline March 8](#)

[2017 SWITCH Africa Green-SEED Awards | Deadline March 8](#)

Applications for 2017 Momentum for Change Awards Now Open | Deadline April 9

[Read more](#)

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

[2017 Global Cleantech 100 Announced](#)

[Azuri Launches PayGo Solar in Nigeria, Offers Solar TVs in Kenya](#)

[Fenix International Reaches 100 Thousand Customers in Uganda with Off-Grid Solar](#)

[BBOXX Secures Unique Financing Facility to Support the Rwandan Government's Off-Grid Electrification Goals](#)

[Village Infrastructure Angels Selected as Finalist for the Fire Awards](#)

[WISIONS of Sustainability Promotes the Long-Term Use of Micro-Hydro Systems in Nepal](#)

[Read more](#)

NEW TOOLS & RESOURCES

[The Global Solar Atlas Launched by the World Bank and the International Solar Alliance](#)

This free, web-based tool helps investors and policymakers identify potential sites for solar power generation virtually anywhere in the world. The tool displays annual average solar power potential, and has the capacity to zoom into areas in great detail (with a spatial resolution of 1 km, or 0.6 of a mile).

[Energypedia Community Answers \(ECA\) Launched](#)

TEnergypedia recently announced its new feature “Energypedia Community Answers (ECA)”, a unique service that allows users to propose trending issues in the renewable sector that need to be featured on energypedia. Energypedia along with its community will then work to collect information on these topics and feature them as articles on energypedia.

[Read more](#)

SPOTLIGHT

[Member Spotlight: SolarAid](#)

SolarAid turned 10 years old in 2016. We have reached over 10 million people with clean and affordable energy and played pivotal roles in the catalyzation of the solar lighting markets in Kenya and Tanzania. While a success story in this still very young sector, these successes have been far from

easy and we are still faced with some of our greatest challenges.

SolarAid is an international NGO which fully owns the social enterprise SunnyMoney. We work in East Africa selling affordable solar lights through our unique distribution model, The SunnyMoney Way. This model was developed over a number of years to overcome the three key barriers to widespread energy access in rural Africa: Affordability, Availability, and Awareness.

[Read more](#)



Photo Credit: SolarAid

SECTOR NEWS

Energiewende
[The Emergent Solar Markets of 2016](#)

CNN
[The \\$7 a Month Plan Bringing Solar Energy to Rural Africa](#)

PV Tech
[Indian Solar Tariffs on Cusp of Smashing Record Lows](#)

IDB
[How to Turn on the Lights in Haiti](#)

PV Tech
[Panasonic Forms new Company to Produce Solar Cells and Modules at SolarCity's Buffalo Lab](#)

ESI Africa
[What Energy Efficiency and the Future of African Energy](#)

[Read more](#)

GROWING THE NETWORK

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

Benin
[General Direction of Energy](#)

Canada
[SRM Projects](#)

Mexico
[P&R Geo Commerce Red de Consumidores A.C.](#)

Nepal
[Wind Power Nepal Pvt Ltd.](#)

Peru
[GREEN Energy Consultancy and Services](#)

South Africa
[Thrie Energy Collective](#)

Spain
[US-African and European Business Group](#)

NEW ENERGY ACCESS REPORTS

The World Bank
[RISE - Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy](#)

IFC

**Operational and Financial Performance of Mini-Grid
DESCOs: Finding and Insights from Pioneer
Benchmarking of this Emerging Sector**

United Kingdom

[Energy 4 Impact](#)

IRENA

**Planning for the Renewable Energy Future: Long-Term
Modelling and Tools to Expand Variable Renewable
Power in Emerging Economies**

United States

[Energy Access Foundation](#)

[Read more](#)



EVENTS CALENDAR

[World Sustainable Energy Days 2017](#)

March 1-3
Wels, Austria

[Solar Power Summit](#)

March 7-8
Brussels, Belgium

[3rd Annual Power Africa Summit](#)

March 8-10
Washington, DC

[32nd Symposium on Photovoltaic Solar Energy](#)

March 8-10
Staffelstein, Germany

[Commission on the Status of Women 61](#)

March 13-24
New York, USA

[ARE Energy Access Investment Forum](#)

March 22-23
Lisbon, Portugal

[Renewable Energy Finance Forum Africa](#)

March 23-24
London, UK

[3rd Sustainable Energy for All Forum: Going Further, Faster - Together](#)

April 3-5
New York, USA

[Clean Energy Summit Africa](#)

April 4-5
Accra, Ghana

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR NEWSLETTER

If you would like to propose an article or contribute to the next edition of the newsletter, please contact [our communication team](#)

www.energyaccess.org



Copyright © 2016 - Energy Access Practitioner Network - All Rights Reserved
1750 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 300 - Washington, DC - 20006
Phone: +1 202 887 9040

info@energyaccess.org - [View online](#) - [Unsubscribe](#)

An initiative hosted by the



[Unsubscribe from receiving email, or change your email preferences.](#)