



SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY FOR ALL

ENERGY ACCESS
PRACTITIONER NETWORK

April, 2015

Energy Access Practitioner Network - monthly call summary

Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) Updates

1. Clean Energy Mini-grids High Impact Opportunity (HIO) area and strategic planning meeting in Bellagio, Italy by Yasemin Erboy Ruff, UN Foundation yerboy@unfoundation.org

- The Clean Energy Mini-grids HIO, of which the UN Foundation is co-Secretariat, and a number of Practitioner Network members have joined, is making progress on the development of specific work streams under the HIO, to convene stakeholders from the private sector, public sector, and civil society to work together to enable, enhance and promote existing and upcoming efforts in the mini-grids sector, to increase the rate of deployment and support market transformation in developing countries.
- At the end of March, a select group of stakeholders held a strategic planning meeting for the HIO, focused on key policy and finance aspects related to the deployment of mini-grids, with the intention to convene key stakeholders with the aim to develop the longer term vision and strategic action plan for the work on clean energy mini-grids within the SE4All initiative.
- The HIO co-Secretariat will be convening a briefing call to share the proceedings of the meeting and open up the discussion to all HIO members this month. If you are interested in participating in the HIO, or would like to have more information, please visit the [HIO webpage](#). For any queries, please contact Yasemin.

2. Energy for Women and Children's Health HIO & WHO technical consultation on measuring and monitoring energy access in resource-constrained settings, by Michaela Pfeiffer, WHO pfeifferm@who.int and Jem Porcaro, UN Foundation jporcaro@unfoundation.org

Jem Porcaro:

- UN Foundation, WHO and UN Women are co-leading a High Impact Opportunity (HIO) on Energy for Women and Children's Health. As part of a larger project the WHO is leading on this topic, WHO convened a technical consultation in Geneva on measuring and monitoring energy access in health care facilities in resource constrained settings.
- The consultation was well attended, with 25 individuals present from various regions including strong representation from Asia and Africa, and a balanced mix of energy and health

representatives. The consultation was an opportunity for health professionals and energy experts to discuss in a practical sense how to measure and report the state of play of energy access in developing countries on both a global and national level.

- The meeting also served as a soft launch for a new World Bank and WHO report “Access to Modern Energy Services for Health Facilities in Resource-Constrained Settings”. The full report can be accessed [here](#).
- The input from the meeting will be used to develop proposed new tools and indicators for better integration into health surveys for a more systematic measurements at a global and national level.

Michaela Pfeiffer:

- The consultation underlined the timeliness of bringing together energy and health communities in parallel to the revision of the UN Secretary General’s global strategy on women, children and maternal health, and Sustainable Energy for All. The meeting showed that there is a language gap between the two communities, but a strong potential to bridge the gap.
- WHO will be publishing the framework document from the working group to show more candidly what the implications of access to energy are on health service delivery packages.

Practitioner Presentations

Dalal Yassin, [Zayed Future Energy Prize, \[dyassin@masdar.ae\]\(mailto:dyassin@masdar.ae\)](#)

- This annual award celebrates achievements that reflect impact, innovation, long-term vision and leadership in renewable energy and sustainability.
- The Prize’s goal is to attract innovation and outstanding individuals and organizations internationally and reward demonstrated solutions that address the global challenges of climate change, energy security, energy access, and economic development.
- The annual prize is totaling US\$4 million, and distributed into 5 categories, making it the world’s largest annual prize purse in renewable energy and sustainability. The categories are: Large Corporation, Small & Medium Enterprise, Non-Profit Organization (NPO/NGO), Lifetime Achievement, and Global High Schools.
- Currently, it is calling for nominations, including those most relevant to Practitioner Network members: Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) – US\$ 1.5 Million dollars and also Non-Profit Organization (NPO/NGO) – US\$ 1.5 Million dollars.
- A number of Practitioner Network members have been finalists and winners of the SME and NGO categories in previous years. Please visit the Zayed Future Energy Prize website to learn more -nominations will be closed June 22nd.

Jesse More, [M-KOPA, contact: \[reHEMA.ogana@m-kopa.com\]\(mailto:reHEMA.ogana@m-kopa.com\)](#)

- M-KOPA Solar is the market leader in ‘pay-as-you-go’ energy services for off-grid customers in East Africa, combining mobile payments with GSM sensor technology to enable the leasing of solar power, headquarters in Kenya.

- M-KOPA started its operations 3.5 years ago with the main goal to make solar systems cheaper than kerosene. Kerosene is flexible and can be purchased every day, so it is appealing for customers who have difficulty saving lump sums. To make solar equally affordable, M-KOPA allows its customers to use a daily credit system via mobile money. In Kenya, the prevalence of M-pesa as a microfinancing service makes this possible.
- Today up to 185,000 homes are equipped with M-KOPA products, and 500 new homes are being added every day. The majority of M-KOPA's customers live below the poverty line, but can still save money with their solar systems.
- M-KOPA's operations are largely based in Kenya, with some in Uganda, and a new pilot in Tanzania.
- M-KOPA was the last year's winner of the Zayed Future Energy Prize in the SME category. The prize was used on their training program: M-KOPA University.
- M-KOPA strongly recommends and encourages businesses to apply and be part of the Prize experience as it is great opportunity to network with other businesses and investors as a finalist in Abu Dhabi. Winning the competition brings attention from the media and other businesses and has a significant impact on the future of the business, in addition the US\$ 1.5 Million winning prize.

Mark Rabin, Zolair Energy, mark@zolair-energy.com

- Zolair Energy is a Canadian startup business that is developing clean 24/7 power to developing communities. Zolair Energy is providing an innovative and proprietary energy technology that consists of a hybrid solar and zinc-powered system, which is dynamically charging and has energy flow 24 hours a day, with an exchangeable cartridge based energy delivery system and wireless prepayment platform. This allows a modular, scalable micro-grid set up, and pay-as-you-go services via energy kiosks that monitor energy use as well as the swapping of cartridges as needed.
- Zolair Energy's product PILA-1 is a hybrid portable solar energy system that goes beyond lighting and phone charging and can run a suite of small appliances, as well as promote small business opportunities.
- Zolair Energy is currently starting projects in Namibia and South Africa.
- Zolair Energy's upcoming product, PILA-Max, is a larger, more permanent solar system that is an "energy cabinet", backed up with a zinc battery that can run larger appliances. Zolair Energy is targeting about 5,000 homes for the start.
- Zolair Energy's proprietary system allows them to partner with any microfinance institution or bank in any given country, decoupling from the traditional pay-as-you-go model.

Upcoming Events

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

The Second Annual United Nations Sustainable Energy for All Forum, 17-21 May 2015

Registration is open for the second Annual Sustainable Energy for All Forum at the United Nations in New York, which will focus on financing this year. This is the first time a global energy ministerial will be convened, and the dialogue is expected to focus on energy in the post-2015 era.

Activities during the week include:

- May 17: public engagement activities in New York, NY
- May 18-19: Day of parallel multi-stakeholder sessions at the Sheraton Hotel at Times Square, New York, focusing on Innovations, sharing progress and matchmaking, as well as a technology exhibition.
- May 20: Global Energy Ministerial at the UN (General Assembly Hall) with a Ministerial level dialogue on Energy in the Post 2015 era.
- May 21: Actions and Commitments Day including key announcements of public and private sector actions and commitments to Sustainable Energy for All.

For more information and to register, please visit www.se4allforum.org. Please direct any queries to forum@se4all.org.

The UN Foundation will be co-leading several sessions May 18 and 19, on the Energy Access Practitioner Network, the Energy for Women and Children's Health HIO, and the Clean Energy Mini-grids HIO.

If you plan on participating, please submit any questions or expressions of interest to Madhavi Ganeshan at mganeshan@unfoundation.org so we can keep a tally of our members planning to be there and arrange our side events accordingly.

Launch of the Clean Energy Access Network (CLEAN), 8 April, 2015

CLEAN is a unifying entity with a mandate to support and grow the decentralized clean energy sector in India. CLEAN will be agnostic to technology (solar, wind, micro hydro, biomass etc.) and scale (pico to larger, decentralized solutions) and develop activities on mechanical and thermal applications focusing on end uses including cooking, lighting, water pumping, small scale industrial needs and other domestic needs. CLEAN is founded by ten entities representing practitioners, research organizations, existing networks and facilitators, including the United Nations Foundation. To learn more, visit them at www.thecleannetwork.org Please also follow CLEAN on Twitter via @thecleannetwork

Ashis Kumar, CEO of CLEAN, will be participating in **the next Practitioner Network webinar on April 29th at 9:30AM EDT** focusing on energy access in India, to provide an overview of CLEAN and its plans moving forward. Other panelists will include Gauri Singh, Commissioner, Renewable Energy for Madhya Pradesh and head of the Renewable Energy Corporation in Madhya Pradesh, and Harish Hande, Co-founder of Selco. Further information and instructions to register will be provided to Practitioner Network members shortly.

Solar Off-grid Renewables West Africa Conference, Ghana, 21-22 April, 2015

This high-level conference, for which the UN Foundation is a partner, will explore the significant solar and off-grid renewable energy market opportunities in West Africa with an elite panel of international expert speakers, in-depth discussions and networking opportunities.

Please find further details about the event [here](#). Please note Practitioner Network members will receive a discount – you can use promotional code **EAPN20** for a ticket discount, exclusive to the Energy Access Practitioner Network.

For more information, please contact cgonthier@solarmedia.co.uk.

Practitioner Updates

Jack Werner, ISP Global jackfwerner@aol.com: The IRENA standards program for certification of solar PV installers in West Africa is continuing to develop and a workshop is underway in Burkina Faso bringing together representatives from 8 West African countries to continue the process of creating a Regional Certification program for PV Installers.

Ling Ng, Alliance for Rural Electrification l.ng@ruralelec.org:

- 1- [Energy Storage World Forum \(Rome, 27-30 April 2015\)](#): The conference is dedicated to stationary storage in Europe and in Asia. An ARE Board Member will present a case study from Africa, evaluating the results of 9 solar and hybrid micro-grids at the forum. ARE members are entitled to 15% discount. To register, visit [here](#).
- 2- [German-African Energy Forum \(Hamburg, 4-5 May 2015\)](#): The Forum is the main platform of German-African energy businesses. One session, moderated by ARE Executive Director Marcus Wiemann will address rural electrification. The programme can be found [here](#).
- 3- [Off-grid Platform at Intersolar 2015 \(Munich, 9-12 June 2015\)](#): We are pleased to announce that the newly created [Off-Grid Power Forum](#) has been confirmed and will take place at Intersolar Europe 2015. Feel free to make use of this unique opportunity to promote your company business by joining the Forum with a stand or slot in the programme. Kindly complete the [registration form](#) and return to [Ling Ng](#). Deadline extended to: 20 April.
- 4- ARE has identified India as a core market for rural electrification. One of the results achieved from the close cooperation with EBTC is a market brief which covers a framework for business opportunities, policy and regulation landscape and case studies in India. The market brief is available [here](#).

REMINDER: Update on New Practitioner Network website

Mahalakshmi Mahadevan, UN Foundation, mmahadevan@unfoundation.org

There will be a soft launch of the new Practitioner Network website at the Sustainable Energy for All Forum.

As part of the redesign of www.energyaccess.org, we are continuing to update our members' profiles. This is the last call to send any relevant materials and photos that can be featured in your organizational profile or on the website to Mahalakshmi Mahadevan: mmahadevan@unfoundation.org.