

PDCI PARTICIPANTS OF WORKING GROUP 2

Creating markets for off- and mini-grid renewable energy solutions



HABIBA ALI

Managing Director & CEO, [Sosai Renewable Energies Company](#), Nigeria

Habiba Ali is a graduate of accounting and Finance with a Master's in Business Finance and currently writing her PhD in Management with a specialization in Energy Finance. She worked with the Power Holding Company of Nigeria and National Electric Power Authority. She then switched to the development sector working with Hope Forum for People in Distress. She later set up the NGO "Developmental Association for Renewable Energies" supported by the German association "Learning – Helping – Living". The NGO became the first organization to have an improved cook stove project registered under the CDM small scale GS status.

As a CEO and MD of Sosai Renewable Energies Company, Habiba Ali strives to promote the use of renewable energy and raise awareness among communities. The company has a mission to provide livelihood improvement technologies at community level, promote sustainability, energy security and clean environment through sales and service of reliable renewable energy products. With her expertise and capacity, Habiba Ali, aims to take action to improve the livelihoods of different communities and open up opportunities for a renewable energy market.



ABDOULAYE BA

Renewable Energy & Rural Electrification Expert, CEO at COSEER Ltd, Senegal

Abdoulaye Ba is a Renewable Energy & Rural Electrification Expert as well as CEO of COSEER Ltd, engineering & consulting service office for renewable energies. He has previously worked for UNIDO and was in charge of designing and implementing a PV mini grid system for an isolated village in East Senegal, which was funded by the GEF. In addition to this, he advised the World Bank's "Lighting Africa Program"

and GTZ's "Energizing Development Project". From 2006 to 2007, he was a Project Engineer and Managing Director at ECOWATT ENERGY LTD, a PV provider based in Senegal. Abdoulaye Ba holds an Engineering Degree in Renewable Energy as well as a Postgraduate Degree in International Project Management, both earned at universities in Germany.



ALBERTO DALUSUNG

President of the Biomass Renewable Energy Alliance, Philippines

Mr. Dalusung has over 30 years of experience in the energy sector with particular focus on renewable energy development and energy planning and policy formulation. Bert has served the government as Director for Energy Planning in what is now the Department of Energy. After working for the government, he was the Philippine focal point of the EU-ASEAN Cogen Program which promoted the use of biomass energy as an alternative heat and power source. His work led to the first biomass power plant for a rice mill in the country. Bert has worked on both on-grid and off-grid power projects with corporations and local communities. Bert was the expert witness for biomass in the feed-in tariff hearings at the Energy Regulatory Commission. He is the President of the Biomass Renewable Energy Alliance, the only biomass industry association recognized by the Philippine Department of Energy and the National Renewable Energy Board.



TUUL GALZAGD

Director, Eco Banking Department, [XacBank](#), Mongolia

Tuul Galzagd, Director of the Eco Banking Department at XacBank is banking professional with over 16 years of experience with financial institutions in Mongolia. She has previously served as the Chief Executive Officer at MTND LLC, the first privately held pension fund in Mongolia and as Director of Ulaanbaatar regional branches, the Banking Services Department, Transfer and Payment Department, and Manager of Deposits for XacBank. She joined XacBank in 2001, following its creation through the merger of two internationally funded microfinance projects: X.A.C. LLC, funded by UNDP, and Goviin Ekhlel LLC, funded by USAID. Her international background, in addition to her role in creating the first eco-focused loan packages in Mongolia, has equipped her to manage projects that harness both environmental standards and private sector actors to introduce energy-efficiency and clean energy to Ulaanbaatar.



JOHN KASIITA SSEMULEMA

Technical Expert Climate Finance Readiness, Promotion of Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Program (PREEEP), Uganda

As a climate change advisor, Mr. Kasiita assists with the implementation of two GIZ global projects. Within the Climate Finance Readiness Programme he supports the establishment of an institutional infrastructure that can mobilize, access, utilize and monitor the use of international climate funds in Uganda, especially under the direct access modality of the Green Climate Fund. In the Global Carbon Markets project, John provides technical advice to strengthen capacity of political stakeholders to formulate and implement policies and strategies that create an appropriate environment for private sector participation in CDM and wider Mitigation activities in the East African Region. He began his climate change career at the UNFCCC secretariat in Bonn, Germany. John Kasiita holds a BSc. degree in Biological Sciences from Makerere University and a MSc. Environment and Natural Resources Management from Brandenburg University of Technology, Cottbus Germany.



MBAARI KINYA

Managing Director, Women in Energy & Environmental Technology (WEET) Enterprise Ltd, Kenya

Dr. Kinya is the CEO and Managing Director of WEET Enterprises Limited in Kenya. (WEET is an acronym for Women in Energy & Environmental Technology). Dr. Kinya founded WEET Enterprises Ltd as a market based social enterprise, to help address the serious issues emanating from household air pollution, which subsequently leads to climate change and high premature mortality. Dr. Kinya is an energy and environmental technology professional. She worked as a senior government officer in the Renewable Energy Department of the Ministry of Energy in Kenya for a number of years. She was also on the faculty of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, where she taught environmental science and conservation, in addition to conducting research on renewable energy. She later taught the course “Energy for Sustainable Development”, part of the Master of Science Degree in Sustainable Energy Engineering, at Kenyatta University. Since then she has worked privately in the field of energy and environmental technology. Dr. Kinya’s education is multidisciplinary comprising a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree (focus on pharmacognosy), Energy Technology, Master of Arts in Urban and Regional Planning and a Ph.D. in International Political Economy & Development.

Dr. Kĩnya is also a member of a number of professional associations, namely, Council of Women in Energy and Environmental Leadership (CWEEL), Association of Energy Professionals Eastern Africa (AEPEA–Bronze Life Member), Clean Cookstoves Association of Kenya (CCAK–Vice Chairperson), Association of Biogas Contractors of Kenya (ABC), and Women in Sustainable Energy and Entrepreneurship (WISEE).



GEORGE KOSIMBEI

Senior Lecturer & Director, [Chandaria Business Innovation and Incubation Centre](#), Kenya

George Kosimbei has experience working with innovators and entrepreneurs since the Centre offers an array of services to incubates that include: assistance with business basics; networking activities; marketing assistance; high-speed internet access; help with accounting/financial management; access to bank loans; loan funds and guarantee programs; help with presentation/pitching skills; links to higher education resources; links to strategic partners; access to angel investors or venture capital; comprehensive business training programs; advisory boards and mentors; management team identification; help with business etiquette; technology commercialization assistance; assistance with regulatory compliance; and intellectual property management. He has previously worked in the Social Sector Division of the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) as a Policy Analyst. While at the institute, he conducted and participated in several studies that provided him with a thorough understanding of the social sector in general and the health sector in particular. Dr. Kosimbei has consulted for various organizations among them; UNFPA, USAID funded Futures Group, the National AIDS Control Council (NACC) and the Regional Technical Support Hub of the International HIV and AIDS Alliance among others.



PEDRO H. MANIEGO

Chairman of the National Renewable Energy Board (NREB), Philippines

Since 2010, Pedro H. Maniego Jr. is the Chairman of the National Renewable Energy Board (NREB), having been appointed by President Benigno S. Aquino III. Under his chairmanship, the NREB has initiated and guided various approaches, such as the approval of feed-in tariff rates, renewable energy payment agreement, FIT-allowance disbursement and collection guidelines, net metering interconnection standards or renewable portfolio standards.

The NREB is currently updating its National Renewable Energy program to bring back the share of RE sources in the power mix (in MWh) to at least 35% by 2030 and to meet the INDC commitment of the Philippines under COP21. Prof. Maniego is a professional industrial engineer, lawyer, economist, management consultant, and professorial lecturer. He has more than 45 years of experience in C-level and senior executive positions in the energy, metals, beverage, semiconductor, IT, munitions, construction, and venture capital sectors and the academe. He was a professor in the U.P. College of Engineering, Lecturer in the University of the Philippines Law Center, president and chief executive officer of several corporations, and consultant to the Asian Development Bank as well as several multinational and domestic firms.

Prof. Maniego's educational background is multidisciplinary, having graduated with degrees in B.S. Industrial Engineering and Bachelor of Laws from the University of the Philippines, and post-graduate studies in management, economics and engineering in the Asian Institute of Management, University of the Philippines, University of the Asia & the Pacific, Federation of Korean Industries, and Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft of Germany.



HAMIS MIKATE

Managing Director & Founder, [ENSOL \(T\) LTD](#), Tanzania

Hamis Mikate is the Managing Director and Founder of ENSOL (T) LTD, a company specialized in engineering design & planning, procurement & construction, system operation & monitoring as well as maintenance of solar systems. As Head of the Organization, Hamis Mikate is in charge of project development, management and supervision. From 2001 to 2004, he was Technical Director of ENSOL (T) LTD and worked for Ultimate Energy Ltd as a Solar PV Technician from 1999 to 2001. Hamis Mikate is also a Steering Committee member of the Tanzania Renewable Energy Incubator (TAREBI) and served as a Local Expert for the FORWARD Project (Fostering Renewable and Sustainable Energy in Africa through Research and Development).



CHARLES MUCHUNKU

Chairman, [Kenya Renewable Energy Association](#)

Charles Muchunku is an independent renewable energy consultant. He has a technical background in renewable energy and 12 years of project experience in Eastern Africa. He has worked with public and private sector stakeholders on projects targeting commercialization

and uptake of renewable and energy efficient technologies through technical support, capacity building, financing schemes for energy products and services, skills transfer and energy policy development. Charles Muchunku has undertaken policy reviews for bioenergy, energy efficiency standards and labels, energy efficiency in buildings as well as renewable energy market studies for private and public sector clients in the East African region. As the Chairman of Kenya's RE Association he has facilitated a number of networking activities and stakeholder consultation workshops on behalf of the sector to review policies and regulations under development.



PETER NYEKO

Co-Founder & Managing Director, Mandulis Energy Limited, Uganda

Over the past decade, Mr. Nyeko has built a unique technological expertise and gained entrepreneurial experience in developing and emerging markets. As a self-starter with proven leadership skills, he actively engages within the non-profit and commercial sector.

Mr. Nyeko founded Mandulis Energy Limited in Uganda to tackle the problem of rural access to affordable clean energy by delivering sustainable, 'green' electricity to base-of-the-pyramid consumers in off-grid areas. Mandulis Energy has partnered with ACTED and 16,000+ farmers to develop 16+ modules of 0.5MW each off-grid across rural Uganda as the focus is Renewable Energy Powering Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods Enhancement Project. Mr. Nyeko holds a Master Degree in Aerospace Vehicle Design Engineering from Cranfield University and Master Degree in Aeronautical Engineering from University of Bristol, United Kingdom.



JAY PATEL

Vice President, Business Development, [Village Energy](#), Uganda

Jay Patel is the Vice President of Business Development at Village Energy. Founded in 2010, Village Energy is focused on developing a last-mile solar distribution and servicing network in rural Uganda, launching its pilot of 12 shops in December 2015. Currently he is involved in all aspects of the company, including business model development, operations, partnerships, financing and recruitment. Prior to joining Village Energy, he spent 5 years at Google on the Small and Medium Business team, with extensive experience in advertising sales, marketing, and business analytics. Jay Patel served as a City Year Corps Member in New York from 2009-2010 and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania.



BELYNDA PETRIE

CEO, OneWorld Sustainable Investments, South Africa

Belynda has over 15 years of experience leading and informing climate resilience building across the adaptation–mitigation spectrum. Her work emphasises transboundary water, sustainable energy, the water–energy nexus, climate finance and risk mitigation of climate on socioeconomic development and human security. She works with multidisciplinary teams, frequently bringing together public and private sector stakeholders. With her strong science–policy–planning–finance interface, Belynda acts as a technical and strategic advisor and is the author of numerous, related publications to include policy, technical and research briefs and books conference presentations. She brings together public and private sector partners to find innovative mechanisms for financing climate change responses, renewable energy initiatives and energy and water investments. Belynda has pioneered a systems analysis approach to building climate resilience, drawing together the strands of political, economic, social, ecological and financial analysis. Recent projects include: lead consultant on the UNDP Climate Finance Readiness project in Eastern and Southern Africa; consultant and facilitator to DANIDA on implementing their Renewable Energy Programme with the South African Government; investment advisor on the African Water Climate and Development Programme, focusing on no/low regret climate investments; developing urban–led and urban relevant responses to energy and climate change policy and developing investment strategies for building climate resilience.



YONO REKSOPRODJO

Vice President of Corporate Affairs, Sintesa Group, Indonesia

Dr. Reksoprodjo has gained wide experiences from engineering design and general management positions in the world class prestigious industries such as The Indonesian Aerospace (PTDI), Roll Royce Aero Engine UK, Rover UK, Milliard Design Australia, Shinwa Engineering International and ARACO in Japan. He is working in higher education as a lecturer at prestigious national and foreign universities and acts as an advisor to many governmental institutions. Yono also belongs to professional organizations such as the Indonesian Institution of Engineers (PII), the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN) and the Indonesia Business Council for Sustainable Development. He is actively involved in humanitarian assistance affairs with an organization known as the Global Rescue

Network and served as a member of a steering committee of the Indonesian Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) in 2009–2014. In 2011, Yono was invited on a Visiting Fellowship Program by the Australian Government and the University of Canberra. He serves as a member of the National Task Force for the National Science and Technology Research Planning of the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education of the Republic of Indonesia and as the Vice President of Corporate Affairs of Sintesa Group and the CEO of PT.Sintesa Banten Geothermal, besides maintaining his academic role as a lecturer at the Indonesian Defense University (UNHAN) on Energy Security.



MICHAEL RUTALO

Transaction Execution Specialist, [Uganda Energy Credit Capitalization Company \(UECCC\)](#)

Michael Rutalo is an Electrical Engineer working for the Uganda Energy Credit Capitalisation Company (UECCC) in the Transaction Execution Department. UECCC is a Government of Uganda company in place to facilitate investments in Uganda’s renewable energy sector. At UECCC, Michael Rutalo is responsible for the structuring of credit and technical support transactions between UECCC and participating financial institutions and project developers/sponsors. Additionally, he oversees the implementation of the ORIO Mini Hydro Power project, which entails the development of 10 Mini-Hydro power plants. Michael has earned an MBA from Manipal University and a Master’s Degree in Power Engineering from Sydney University, Australia. He has extensive experience in the energy sector in renewable energy, energy efficiency, transaction advisory and energy finance.



GODFREY SSALI

Development, Policy Analyst & Advocacy Officer, [Uganda Manufacturers Association](#)

Godfrey Ssali has been representing the Uganda Manufacturers Association since 2010 as a Policy Analyst & Advocacy Officer. In this position, he monitors and analyses international trade and investment policies, manages knowledge within the organisation and represents its members at various councils and committees. He has previously acted as Secretary General of the Kampala City Traders Association (KACITA) and worked as a Programme Officer & Africa–America–Institute (AAI) Facilitator at the Southern and Eastern African Trade, Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI) in

Uganda. Godfrey Ssali is also an experienced Market and Social Researcher. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Sciences as well as a Master's Degree in Development Studies.



LAURA SUNDBLAD

Capacity Building Specialist, Arc Finance, Finland

Laura is Arc Finance's Capacity Building Specialist. In this role, she leads Arc's capacity-building efforts at partner institutions and beyond. She oversees staff training and consumer education efforts related to energy financing, and leads Arc's sector-building activities, including Arc's annual conference on innovations in financing small-scale off-grid clean energy. Laura is also engaged in building Arc's expertise on gender equality issues in energy access, and she is the Relationship Manager for Arc's partners in Kenya and Uganda. She has several years of diverse experience in international development and climate change. During her graduate studies at Columbia University, Laura was a pro bono consultant for Zara Solar, a Tanzanian solar energy business, developing a new strategic plan for its expansion. In 2013, she conducted research on climate change, gender equality and conflict in the Horn of Africa for the Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery of the United Nations Development Programme. Prior to her graduate studies, she served as Assistant Field Director in the Marshall Islands for the educational non-profit organization WorldTeach. Laura has held internships with the Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations as well as the Department for Development of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. She holds a Master of Public Administration degree from Columbia University as well as a Master of Arts degree in International Relations from the University of St Andrews. A native of Finland, Laura is fluent in English and Finnish, speaks French, Spanish, Swedish and Marshallese at an intermediate level.



VIANNEY TUMWESIGE

Managing Director, [Green Heat Uganda](#)

Vianney Tumwesige is the Managing Director of Green Heat Uganda, which he founded in 2010. Green Heat offers innovative and cost effective one stop waste management solutions. Vianney Tumwesige, began his bioenergy research in 2007 at Kyambogo University and was also a PhD & Msc student at the University of Aberdeen. He now collaborates with the Centre for Research in Energy and Energy Conservation at Makerere University (CREEC). CREEC is active in four areas in bio-energy: improved cook-stoves, biogas, gasification and briquette making.



ROBERTO VERZOLA

Founder, President & Executive Director, Center for Renewable Electricity Strategies (CREST), Philippines

Roberto Verzola is a President & Executive Director at the Center for Renewable Electricity Strategies (CREST), a new non-profit organization for promoting renewable electricity in the Philippines. Since 2001, he is also acting as a National Coordinator of a non-profit network of farmers, academics, government officials (active and retired) and other advocates and practitioners of the system of rice intensification (SRI) that conducts free farmers' training on SRI. Roberto is also a lecturer at the Institute of Mathematics, University of the Philippines. In February 2015, his book "Crossing Over: The Energy Transition to Renewable Electricity" has been published by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung. Previously Roberto Verzola was as a president of Tanggol-Kalikasan (Environmental Defense), an environmental organization focused on the implementation of the country's environmental laws and regulations. He also worked as a consultant on sustainable technologies and in the development of course curricula on sustainable development, renewable energy and local economy at an NGO "Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement" (PRRM).

Moderator



RAINER AGSTER

Director Private Sector Cooperation, [adelphi](#), Germany

Rainer Agster is Director of adelphi's Private Sector Cooperation and Director of Operations at SEED. He is responsible for different work areas of sustainable development in developing countries and emerging economies. Over the past 15 years, Rainer Agster has conducted numerous projects in Africa, China, South Asia and the South Caucasus. He is currently focussing on the areas of climate change adaptation, energy efficiency, green finance and sustainability entrepreneurship. Rainer Agster advises banks in India, Nepal and Turkey on climate protection, energy efficiency and renewable energy. Before joining adelphi, he held a position at a subsidiary of the Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK), focussing on promoting exports of German environmental technology. The role involved managing projects in Brazil and the United Arab Emirates. He also gained two years of experience working in an energy supply company.