

Context

The International Vienna Energy and Climate Forum is a solutions platform to accelerate low-emission, climate-resilient development around the world. The Forum highlights the action-oriented steps required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, helping to forge an inclusive pathway that leaves no one behind. The solutions platform facilitates multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder, and interdisciplinary dialogue to advance sustainable energy development while promoting inclusiveness and the empowerment of women and youth engagement. The Forum is hosting in-depth solution sessions on the topics relevant to its five themes.

Strengthening the means of implementation for the Agenda 2030 – Promoting south-south and triangular climate cooperation through the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centers (GN-SEC)

Date: 02 November 2023

Time: 14:00 to 15:00

Location: Rittersaal, Hofburg Palace

Contact point name and email:

- Mr. Martin Lugmayr, Industrial Development Expert, UNIDO, m.lugmayr@unido.org
- Ms. Otalia Sacko, Project Administrator, UNIDO, o.sacko@unido.org
- Mr. Manfred Bürstmayr, Manfred.Buerstmayr@ada.gv.at

Communication contact point name and email:

- Ms. Marinette Gaillon, m.gaillon@unido.org
- Mr. Gunter Schall, gunter.schall@ada.gv.at

Session description

By looking at the moderate growth rates of clean energy technology markets in developing countries, particularly in least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS) it becomes obvious that SDG-7 (affordable and clean energy), SDG-9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), SDG-12 (responsible consumption and production) and SDG-13 (climate action) cannot be attained by 2030 in business-as-usual scenarios.

International public and private investment flows for the energy transition need to be dramatically upscaled and redirected. Globally, the pace of renewable energy investments is not sufficient to keep the world on track with the 1.5°C climate scenario. Investments in renewables need to at least quadruple and reach an annual level of more than USD 5 trillion on average between 2023 and 2030. More than 50% of the world's population in developing countries, received only 15% of global investments in renewables in 2022.

There is need for economies of scale and speed. In line with SDG-17, more effective means of implementation and technology cooperation modalities are required. Cross-border challenges, such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, need cross-border solutions and leapfrogging from traditional bilateral approaches. On this background, regional, south-south and triangular industrial cooperation (SSTC) is rapidly gaining momentum as a powerful delivery mechanism in the development and climate space.

Therefore, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) are organising a side event to showcase the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC), a unique multi-stakeholder platform for south-south and triangular industrial cooperation “from the regions for the regions”.

Since 2010, UNIDO assists regional economic communities (RECs) of the “Global South” in the creation and operation of regional sustainable energy centres, which provide support “from the regions for the regions”. The GN-SEC platform facilitates joint learning and intra-regional activities between the centres and partners of “Global North” and multilateral level. The network has an important role to test, demonstrate and roll-out latest technology, policy and business model innovations in various regions simultaneously.

In total, the GN-SEC covers 113 countries, including 41 of 46 LDCs and 35 of 39 SIDS. Through the setting of regional renewable energy and energy efficiency policies, regulations and standards and the facilitation of national follow-up, the GN-SEC platform influences – at least indirectly - the behaviour of around 1,7 billion energy consumers in developing countries in the long-run. Further information on the GN-SEC is available at: www.gn-sec.net and <https://open.unido.org/projects/M0/projects/180301>.

Session format

The side event will kick-off with an introductory video, opening speeches and the announcement of the signing of a funding agreement on the project “The Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Sustainable Centres Platform – South-South and triangular cooperation for accelerated progress”. The project will guide the work of the UNIDO hosted GN-SEC platform in the upcoming years. A group photo will be taken.

This will be followed by an interactive pitching session, which will give each of the GN-SEC representatives the opportunity to briefly introduce their centre, its unique selling point, achievements and commitment to intra-regional cooperation. After the meeting, the participants of the side event will have the opportunity to meet the GN-SEC representatives for further discussions.

Guiding pitching questions

- *(first question) Please introduce your centre, which countries you represent and how you contribute to the uptake of renewable energy and energy efficiency markets by harmonising policies and standards and the facilitation of cooperation and intelligence between? What are your biggest achievements so far and how you intend to work with other regions on joint approaches?*
- *(optional question if there is time) Together the GN-SEC centers work in more than one hundred countries of the Global South, including most LDCs and SIDS. How intra-regional, south-south and triangular cooperation between the centers and regions can contribute to accelerated progress? What can be learned from each other?*
- *(optional question if there is time) A successful transition towards a global net-zero carbon emission scenario requires the industrial roll-out of new innovative solutions. How the regional centers can help to bring the latest innovations and business models to various regions simultaneously? How the GN-SEC platform can help?*

Agenda

- **Opening by the moderator**
Mr. Martin Lugmayr, Industrial Development Expert, UNIDO | 14:00 – 14:05 CEST
- **GN-SEC video presentation** | 14:05 – 14:10 CEST
- **Opening speeches (each 5 minutes)** | 14:10 – 14:25 CEST
Ms. Fatou Haidara, Deputy to the Director General, UNIDO
Mr. Friedrich Stift, Managing Director, ADA
Ms. Dima Al-Khatib, Director, UNOSSC (pre-recorded)
- **Pitching session (max. 30 minutes)** | 14:25 – 14:55 CEST

First round of speakers – Africa and Arab region (3 minutes each centre – one PowerPoint slide):

- *Mr. Elayo Hyacinth, Sustainable Energy Policy Officer, ECREEE (West Africa)*
- *Mr. Jauad El Kharraz, Executive Director, RCREEE (Arab region)*
- *Mr. Readlay Makaliki, Lead Technical Expert, SACREEE (Southern Africa)*
- *Mr. Goddy Muhanguzi Muhumuza, Executive Director, EACREEE (Eastern Africa)*
- *Mr. Jean-Pierre Ndoutoum, Head of Start-Up Unit, CEREEAC (Central Africa)*

Second round of speakers – Asia, Pacific, Latin America 3 minutes each centre – one PowerPoint slide):

- *Mr. Solomon Fifita, Manager, PCREEE (Pacific islands)*
- *Mr. Jean-Michel Parle, Generation Expansion Engineer, CCREEE (Caribbean islands)*
- *Ms. Tatiana Orellana, Program Coordinator, SICREEE/SICA (Central America)*
- *Mr. Byron Chilibinga, Energy Specialist, OLADE (Latin America)*
- *Mr. Avishek Malla, Energy Specialist, REEECH/ICIMOD (Hindukush-Himalaya)*

- **Closing of event and meet and greet with the centres outside of the room** | from 15:00 CEST

Expected outcomes

The side event marks the full operationalisation of the UNIDO hosted GN-SEC platform, which facilitates south-south and triangular cooperation on critical issues of the energy and climate transition of the Global South. By 2030, it is the intention to make the GN-SEC an internationally acknowledged SDG accelerator, particularly contributing to the progress towards SDG 7, 9, 12 and 13. It will serve as a best practice example for enhanced means of implementation for the Agenda 2030 and the outcomes of the 2nd High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Co-operation (BAPA +40), held in Buenos Aires in 2019.

Speakers of the opening session

Ms. Fatou Haidara



Deputy to the Director General and Managing Director of the Directorate of Global Partnerships and External Relations, UNIDO

Ms. Haidara is responsible for UNIDO's engagement with Member States and all external partners. She is also the Director General's Special Representative for Africa. Before, she headed the Directorate of Corporate Management and Operations, built up strategic partnerships and coordinated UNIDO's programmes in Africa and in LDCs. Before, she served the Government of Mali for eight years, including as Minister of Employment and Vocational Training and Minister of Industry, Trade and Private Sector Development.

E-Mail: unido@unido.org

Social Media: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/unido/>

Mr. Friedrich Stift



Managing Director, Austrian Development Agency (ADA)

Mr. Stift was appointed as Managing Director of ADA, the operational unit of the Austrian Development Cooperation, in June 2021. Before, he worked in the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1989 to 2021 and represented Austria as Ambassador in Saudi Arabia, Iran and in the People's Republic of China. Mr. Stift graduated in law at the University of Vienna and completed postgraduate studies in Bologna and Washington.

E-Mail: office@ada.gv.at

Social Media: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/austriandev/>

Ms. Dima Al-Khatib



Director, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC)

Dima is currently the Director of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation. Previously, she was the UNDP Resident Representative to the Republic of Moldova, Programme and Policy Coordinator at UNDP Amman Regional Hub, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Kuwait Country Office, Deputy Country Director for UNDP Libya and has assumed several functions in UNDP Headquarters in New York. She has more than 25 years of experience in the field of development.

E-Mail: sumeeta.banerji@unoss.org

Social media: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dima-al-khatib-5385505/>

Moderator and speakers of pitching session

Mr. Readlay Makaliki



Lead Technical Expert, Southern African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE)

Readlay joined SACREEE in 2018 and has extensive senior management experience of over 25 years in the electricity industry. Currently, he is the Lead Technical Expert of the Energy Efficient Lighting and Appliances (EELA) project. He holds a Bachelor of Engineering Degree (BEng) in Electrical from the University of Zambia (UNZA) and a Master of Science (MSc) in Electrical Power Engineering from Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg.

E-Mail: readlay.makaliki@sacreee.org, www.sacreee.org

Social media: [linkedin.com/in/readlay-makaliki-285b1a40](https://www.linkedin.com/in/readlay-makaliki-285b1a40)

Mr. Jauad El Kharraz



Executive Director, Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE) for the Arab region

Since 2021, Jauad leads RCREEE, an intergovernmental organization with diplomatic status based in Cairo, covering 17 Arab countries. He has over 20 years of experience in energy policies, wind and solar energy, and green hydrogen, water management, desalination, water-energy-food-climate nexus, climate change, and environment. He obtains MSc and PhD degrees in Physics and enterprises management and strategies.

E-Mail: jauad.elkharraz@rcreee.org, www.rcreee.org

Social Media: [linkedin.com/in/jauade](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jauade)

Mr. Elayo Hyacinth



Sustainable Energy Policy Officer, ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE)

Hyacinth has joined ECREEE, in Praia, Cape Verde, in 2010. He is coordinating the ECOWAS Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Policies and facilitates follow-up actions in fifteen ECOWAS countries. Before, he worked with the Energy Directorate of the ECOWAS Commission. Elayo has over 15 years' work experience in the energy and mining sectors and holds an MA in International Relations and an MSc in Energy Studies with specialisation in Energy Policy.

E-Mail: helayo@ecreee.org, www.ecreee.org

Social Media: [linkedin.com/in/hyacinth-elayo-80729679](https://www.linkedin.com/in/hyacinth-elayo-80729679)

Mr. Goddy Muhanguzi Muhumuza



Executive Director, East African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (EACREEE)

Goddy assumed office as Executive of EACREEE on 1st October 2021. Prior to this appointment, he worked as a lecturer and senior manager for the Makerere University, where he established the Directorate of Legal Affairs and the Intellectual Property Management Office. Goddy has over 15 years' experience in management, legal advisory and practice. He holds a Master of Laws from Makerere University.

E-Mail: g.muhumuza@eacreee.org, www.eacreee.org

Social Media: [linkedin.com/in/canon-aoddv-muhanauzi-muhumuza-30a29572](https://www.linkedin.com/in/canon-aoddv-muhanauzi-muhumuza-30a29572)

Mr. Jean-Pierre Ndoutoum



Head of the Start-Up Unit, Central African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CEREEAC)

In May 2023, Mr. Jean-Pierre Ndoutoum was appointed as the Head of the Start-Up Unit of the new CEREEAC. Previously, he worked for 25 years for the International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF), lately as Director of the Francophonie Institute for Sustainable Development (IFDD). Before, he was Director at the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Oil of Gabon in charge of predictive, economic and financial studies.

E-Mail: jean-pierre.ndoutoum@cereeac.org, www.cereeac.org

Social Media: [linkedin.com/in/jean-pierre-ndoutoum-72050986](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jean-pierre-ndoutoum-72050986)

Mr. Solomon Fifita



Manager, Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE)

Solomone was the former the Head of the Pacific's Regional Energy Programme, housed at the Pacific Community in Suva, Fiji. He has served as project manager for regional Pacific energy and climate change projects and prior to that he was the energy planner for the Kingdom of Tonga. Solomone was a lead author and reviewer for IPCC reports and national UNFCCC climate communications. He has more than 25 years in the energy sector and holds a Master of Science in Energy Planning and Policy.

E-Mail: solomone.fifita@pcreee.org, www.pcreee.org

Social media: [linkedin.com/in/solomone-fifita-47862115b](https://www.linkedin.com/in/solomone-fifita-47862115b)

Mr. Jean-Michel Parle



Generation Expansion Engineer, Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE)

Jean Michel Parle is the Generation Expansion Engineer at the CCREEE and works primarily on its Integrated Resource and Resilience Planning (IRRP) Programme, which supports the development of integrated resource plans with climate risk

E-Mail: jean-michel@ccreee.org, www.ccreee.org

Social Media: [linkedin.com/in/jean-michel-parle-1a866629](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jean-michel-parle-1a866629)

Mr. Avishek Malla



Energy Specialist, Regional Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Capacity for the Hindukush-Himalaya (REEECH) / International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)

With over 16 years of expertise in the development and implementation of renewable energy including strong focus on climate adaptation and mitigation, Avishek have held various positions in inter-government agencies, the private sector, government, and academia in both developed and developing countries. His leadership experience includes successfully heading organizations, spearheading pioneering projects, and delivering customer-focused solutions.

E-Mail: Avishek.Malla@icimod.org

Social Media: [linkedin.com/in/avishek-malla-b9426323](https://www.linkedin.com/in/avishek-malla-b9426323)

Ms. Tatiana Orellana



Program Coordinator, SICA Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SICREEE) / Central American Integration System (SICA)

Tatiana is Salvadoran, has a degree in electrical engineering and more than ten years of experience in the energy sector in Central America. She has been focused on the implementation of projects to promote the integration of renewable energy, energy efficiency and digitalization. Recently, she assumed the role of Executive Coordinator of the Energy Coordination Unit (UCE) of the SICA General Secretariat, including the coordination of SICREEE.

E-Mail: storellana@sica.int

Social Media: [linkedin.com/in/tatiana-orellana-7b1294123](https://www.linkedin.com/in/tatiana-orellana-7b1294123)

Mr. Byron Chilingua



Energy Specialist, Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE)

Byron Chilingua, Ecuadorian, Chemical Engineer, with a specialty in renewable energy. Professional experience in promotion, project implementation and studies on renewable energy development strategies and energy efficiency. Works on design, preparation of proposals, studies, construction, development, commissioning, operation, training, evaluation of good practices and lessons learned.

E-Mail: byron.chilingua@olade.org

Social media: [linkedin.com/in/byron-chilingua-0a551024](https://www.linkedin.com/in/byron-chilingua-0a551024)

Mr. Martin Lugmayr



Industrial Development Expert, Coordinator of the GN-SEC Program, UNIDO

Inspired by multilateralism and regional cooperation, Martin is spearheading the GN-SEC program and is managing a portfolio of sustainable energy projects in SIDS and LDC. Before joining UNIDO in 2010, he coordinated the energy program of the Austrian Development Cooperation and was previously specialised on European integration issues. Martin obtains Master degrees on renewable energy technologies and political science.

E-Mail: m.lugmayr@unido.org, www.gn-sec.net

Social Media: [linkedin.com/in/martin-lugmayr-5b5029176](https://www.linkedin.com/in/martin-lugmayr-5b5029176)



The sun never goes down in the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC) – Accelerating the energy and climate transition “from the regions for the regions”!

