

AGENDA

Access to Sustainable Renewable Energy in Africa as Prerequisite for the MDGs

May 22 - 26, 2012 – Rockefeller Bellagio Center, Italy

Tuesday, 22nd May 2012

- 07:00 pm Arrival of participants
Evening reception/Dinner
Welcome note by Mr. Anthony Ighodaro, Chair, AREA Steering Committee

Wednesday, 23rd May 2012

- 08:00 am Breakfast
- 09:00 am Short introduction into the programme by Ansgar Kiene, AREA Coordinator, South Africa
- 09:30 am **SESSION 1: Bangladesh's Renewable energy, microfinance and capacity building schemes for off-grid areas**

[Brief inputs by speakers to set the scene for facilitated discussion with all participants]

Session Chair: Ms. Anne Ngozi Agbakoba, Solar Jooce, Nigeria

Speakers: Mr. Dipal Barua, Bright Green Energy Foundation, Bangladesh
Ms. Gifty Baaba Asmah, Daasgift Quality Foundation, Ghana
Mr. Billy Katontoka, Eco Merge Africa Ltd., Zambia
Ms. Barbara Börner, Canopus Foundation, Germany

These integrated approaches not only focus on the technical and capacity-building sides of renewable energy but on women welfare, income generation, child education, capacity building of local entrepreneurs and after sales service. Their innovative financial schemes involving the community at grass root level have helped rural people to procure renewable energy systems for their livelihood activities and income generation. Bangladesh has proven that renewable energy applications can be scaled up massively and rapidly to provide an affordable and climate-friendly energy option for the rural poor.

Discussion: practicability of solar home systems; microfinance options, advantages and barriers; capacity building programs; manufacturing challenges; import tax barriers on renewable energy technology; implementation prerequisites and obstructions.

- 01:00 pm Lunch break
- 02:00 pm **SESSION 2: Sustainable & efficient cooking solutions using improved cookstoves and biogas – CDM and microfinance as an enabler**

[Brief inputs by speakers to set the scene for facilitated discussion with all participants]

Session Chair: Mr. Prof. Salah Arafa Mohamed Arafa, The American University of Cairo, Egypt

Speakers: Ms. Els Boerhof, Goodwell Investments BV, Netherlands
Mr. Mosad Elmissiry, NEPAD - Regional Integration & Infrastructure, South Africa
Ms. Dr. Ruth Rabinowitz, MamaEarth Foundation, South Africa
Mr. Hervé Azemtsa, S² Services SARL, Cameroon

Improved cook stoves can reduce indoor air pollution and emissions up to 80%. Besides saving greenhouse gases, one major objective is to bring wood consumption down to a sustainable level in Africa. Many good examples exist all over the continent. However, financing improved cook stove programmes by the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) would greatly accelerate dissemination. Another sustainable cooking solution, often overseen, is the utilization of biogas.

Discussion: Investment barriers, technological barriers and barriers due to prevailing practice; monitoring; data gathering; CDM and micro-finance; appliances for processing, cooling, heating

07:00 pm – 07:30 pm Cocktails

07:30 pm – 08:30 pm Dinner

Thursday, 24th May 2012

08:00 am Breakfast

09:00 am **SESSION 3: Rural electrification with mini-grid solutions: Examining the Rockefeller Foundation Smart Power for Environmentally-sound Economic Development (SPEED) programme in India for adaptation in Africa**

[Brief inputs by speakers to set the scene for facilitated discussion with all participants]

Session Chair: Ms. Asami Miketa, IRENA Innovation Technology Centre, Germany

Speakers: Ms. Lillian Chege, Rockefeller Foundation, USA

Ms. Charlotte Ward, GSMA, Community Power for Mobile programme, Kenya

Mr. Youssef Mesfioui, EnR'afrique, Morocco

Mr. John Mthandi, Mulanje Renewable Energy Agency, Malawi

The Rockefeller Foundation is exploring whether the power needs of the massive and rapidly-growing infrastructure of cell phone towers in India - many of which are far from the electricity grid and powered by expensive diesel fuel - can be harnessed as an anchor demand and source of revenue to help provide clean energy services and universal electrification in poor communities.

Discussion: Private and public stakeholders; ownership issues; technologies; finance; operation and maintenance; capacity building; equitable growth and participation; smart grids

01:00 pm Lunch break

02:00 pm **SESSION 4: Access to affordable energy by switching from fossil fuel to renewable energy production as demonstrated by the Cape Verde Islands**

[Brief inputs by speakers to set the scene for facilitated discussion with all participants]

Session Chair: Mr. Benoît Lebot, UNDP Climate Finance, Senegal

Speakers: Mr. Abraão Andrade Lopez, Ministry of Industry and Energy, Cape Verde

Mr. Wisdom Ahiataku-Togobo, Ministry of Energy, Ghana

Mr. Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah, Centre for Strategy and Security in the Sahel Sahara, Mauritania

Mr. Atef Marzouk, African Union Commission Department of Infrastructure and Energy

The Cape Verde Islands are defined by energy poverty since electricity is unaffordable to many due to an extremely high cost of importation of diesel for electricity production.

The Cape Verdean government introduced a set of measures to achieve a ratio of 50 % renewable energy production in ten years (wind and solar PV). The aim is to become independent of fossil fuel imports, to enable affordable access to electricity to their citizens and to become a knowledge hub for West Africa.

Discussion: Private and public investments; government loans; data gathering; planning and implementation; feasibility of replication; technologies; grid requirements; tariff setting

07:00 pm – 07:30 pm Cocktails

07:30 pm – 08:30 pm Dinner

Friday, 25th May 2012

08:00 am Breakfast

09:00 am **4 WORKING GROUPS FOR IN-DEPTH EVALUATION AND DEFINITION OF REPLICABLE MODELS FOR PAN-AFRICAN IMPLEMENTATION**

Working group 1: Access to renewable energy through microfinance

Session Chair: Mr. Bernard Osawa, Frontier Investment, Kenya

Working group 2: Sustainable and efficient cooking solutions

Session Chair: Mr. Joseph Nganga, Renewable Energy Ventures Ltd, Kenya

Working group 3: Mini-grid with telecommunication infrastructure

Session Chair: Mr. Pariphan Uawithya, Rockefeller Foundation, Thailand

Working group 4: Affordable energy through Renewables

Session Chair: Mr. Mahama Kappiah, ECOWAS Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency - ECREEE

The institutional, financial, technology research & development and human resource frameworks will be highlighted, evaluated and taken further. On the basis of the four examples given and in consideration of all relevant issues, this conference aims to develop widely replicable mechanisms for the deployment of sustainable and affordable energy access opportunities in Africa.

01:00 pm Lunch break

02:00 pm **SHARING THE OUTCOME OF THE 4 WORKING GROUPS AND DISCUSSION**

[Feedbacks by session chairs for facilitated discussion with all participants]

Session Chair: Mr. Ansgar Kiene, AREA Coordinator; World Future Council Africa, South Africa

Conclusions from the conference and visions on the mutual way forward. As an outcome of the conference, AREA seeks to build strong cooperations across borders that put the developed models into practice nationally as well as internationally.

07:00 pm – 07:30 pm Cocktails

07:30 pm – 08:30 pm Dinner

Saturday, 26th May 2012

Departure of participants

Additional Information:

- For the arrival and departure of our participants (22nd and 26th May) a shuttle service will be available (more detailed information on the shuttle will follow).
- Coffee, Tea, Cookies: Always available.
- Cocktails and Dinner at the Villa Serbelloni: **First Shuttle** bus to the Villa at 06:30 pm. **Last Shuttle** bus back to the Sfondrata at 09:30 pm.
- On departure day, self service continental breakfast is available for the participants (also for early departures).

- For any other information, please feel free to contact us: sarah.ahmed@worldfuturecouncil.org - Phone: +49 40 3070914-29

We thank you again for your participation and wish you a great conference.