This year we are celebrating the 14th year of the Energy Africa Conference and we are privileged to have Peter Eigen, the founder of International Transparency (https://www.transparency.org), an organization that holds “the powerful and corrupt to account, by exposing the systems and networks that enable corruption” and “advocates for policies and builds coalitions to change the status quo to free the world from corruption and fight for social and economic justice, human rights, peace, and security.”

Now Peter has taken up another important initiative, Transparency Local Electricity Access Program (LEAP) to overcome energy poverty. The program is designed to help national governments, businesses, and civil society organizations, a platform to jointly create an enabling environment for local electrification that meets the real needs of communities while offering a stable framework for energy investors. This vision fits tightly with that of the Energy Africa Conference, and we look forward to working with him.

This year’s Energy Africa Conference, under the theme “Unlocking Africa’s Energy Investments’ Potential” will focus on project funding in Africa. Many energy projects have limited access to financing due to inadequate project preparation by the developers and sponsors. At Energy Africa Conference, we firmly believe that connecting investors and projects with a shared knowledge of what is needed to actualize projects is the bedrock to sustainable private investments in the African power sector. Additionally, investors seeking bankable projects from Africa do not know where to find them. The conference will expose project sponsors to the funding types and what is required to access them. Attendees will also learn about the latest technologies and innovations in the energy space, such as transmitting electricity without cables.

I want to express our appreciation to the many people that have helped us grow over the years. We want to thank Robert Stoner, the Deputy Director of the MIT Energy Initiative, and Michael Farina, the Executive Leader-Strategy and Growth, Integrated Gas and Power Solutions at Baker Hughes for their dedication to this conference.

I would also like to thank our sponsors for their generous support without which this conference would not be possible. I particularly want to extend my appreciation to Mary and Jim Donovan for the many years of financial support, without whom, the conference would not possible.

Finally, I want to thank the Dean of the Anderson College of Business and Computing, Shari Plantz-Masters, and the Provost of Regis University, Karen Riley for their support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Luka Powanga
Executive Director and Founder, Energy Africa Conference and Professor, Anderson College of Business and Computing, Regis University.
ORDER OF EVENTS

DAY ONE: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021

**Purpose:** To equip project sponsors/developers and investors with the tools that will allow them to prepare their projects for funding or find a bankable project in Africa.

8-8:10 A.M. **Welcome Remarks**
Speakers: Luka Powanga, Professor, Regis University and Founder of the Energy Africa Conference
Shari Plantz-Masters, Professor and Dean, Anderson College of Business and Computing
Karen Riley, Provost, Regis University

8:10-8:25 A.M. **Overview of Project Financing**
Speaker: Peter Storment, CEO Cedar Street Capital LLC

8:25-8:35 A.M. **Powering Smart Cities in Africa**
Speaker: Julius Mwale, Principal, Mwale Medical Technical City

8:35-8:45 A.M. **Investing in Africa: The Case for Zambia**
Keynote: Nevers S. Mumba, Former Vice President, Republic of Zambia

8:45-9 A.M. **Zambian Energy Sector and Investment Opportunities**
Speaker: Matthews Nkhuwa, Former Minister of Energy, Republic of Zambia

9-9:25 A.M. **Funding Projects in Africa**
Moderator: Peter Storment, CEO Cedar Street Capital LLC
Speakers: Jack Heffernan, Former Managing Director, Cantor Fitzgerald & Co
David Howe, Former Finance Director of Addax Petroleum Nigeria

9:25-9:35 A.M. **Funding Rural Electrification**
Speaker: Patrick Tonui, Head of Policy and Regional Strategy, GOGLA

9:35-9:45 A.M. **Financing PayGo SHS and Mini Grid Companies**
Speaker: Emilien Di Gennaro, CEO, SureChill

9:45-10:15 A.M. **Good Governance and Investments**
Keynote: H.E Lansana Kouyate, Former Prime Minister, Guinea

10:15-10:30 A.M. **Transitioning To Renewable Energy, An Oilman’s Story**
Speaker: George Ebuh, Managing Director, Petrology Group

10:30-NOON **Reducing Energy Poverty**
Moderator: Robert Stoner, Deputy Director, MIT Energy Initiative
Speakers: Jessica Stevens, Chief Executive Officer, African MiniGrid Developers Association
Kate Steel, Co-founder, and Chief Operations Officer, Nitho
Ignacio Perez-Arriaga, Director Research, GCEEP; Visiting Professor, Comillas University, Spain and Florence School of Regulation, Italy
Koen Peters, Executive Director, GOGLA
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DAY TWO: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2021

8-8:45 A.M.  Local Electricity Access Program
Keynote:  Peter Eigen, Founder, Transparent International

8:45-9:15 A.M.  Role of Nuclear Energy in Energy Transition
Speaker:  Vivek Lall, Chief Executive, General Atomics Global Corporation

9:15-10:30 A.M.  Developing Geothermal Energy
Speaker:  Michael Farina, Executive Leader-Strategy and Growth, Integrated Gas and Power Solutions, Baker Hughes

10:30-11 A.M.  The Gender and Energy Compact
Keynote:  Ambassador Irene Giner-Geichl, Advisor, Global Women Network

11-11:15 A.M.  Harnessing the African Diaspora to Catalyze Africa’s Economic Development
Speaker:  Ambassador Cheick Keita, Founder and President, Open Business Africa, and Bridge of Innovation

11:15-11:20 A.M.  Energy Development and Connectivity
Speaker:  Bai Blyden, Retired Physicist, Southern Power

Keynote:  Batchi Baldeh, Director, Power Systems Development, African Development Bank

11:40-NOON  Disruptive Technologies in the Energy Space
Moderator:  Claudio Pedretti, President, ARE and CEO, of Green Ventures
Speakers:  Dario Traverso, CEO, Genius Watter
Danny Friedrich, CEO, Pineberry

NOON-12:30 P.M.  New technologies towards SDG7
Moderator:  Claudio Pedretti, President, ARE and CEO, of Green Ventures
Speakers:  Carlo Brovero, CEO, Storen Tech
Sandra Liz Hon, CEO, H.T Energy
Greg Kushnir, CEO, EMROD
Peter Eigen
*Founder, Transparent International, Germany*

Prof. Dr. Peter Eigen is the founder of Transparency International, a non-governmental organization promoting transparency and accountability in international development. From 1993 to 2005 he was Chair of TI and until 2019 Chair of its Advisory Council. In 2006-2011 he was the founding Chair of Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). In August 2014 he co-founded the “HUMBOLDT-VIADRINA Governance Platform” in Berlin, he founded in 2015 and chaired its Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI), and co-chairs now its Climate Transparency Initiative. Since 2018 he co-chairs the Africa Progress Group (Abeokuta), a successor initiative to The Africa Progress Panel (Geneva).


In 2004 Peter Eigen has been awarded the Readers Digest Prize “European of the Year 2004” and in 2007 the Gustav Heinemann Award. In 2013 Germany awarded Peter Eigen its Grand Cross of Merit in recognition of his efforts to combat corruption. In 2015, he was awarded the Inamori Ethics Prize (USA/ Japan), in 2019 the Deutschen Kulturpreis (München) and the award Persönlichkeit des Jahres (German-Brasilian Chamber of Commerce: Natal, Brasilien).

Peter Eigen serves on the boards of Care, Stiftung Kinder-Hilfe, Childaid and German Doctors.

Nevers S. Mumba
*Former Vice President, Republic of Zambia*

Dr. Nevers Mumba, a philanthropist, diplomat and pastor, served as Vice-President of Zambia from 2003-2004 under President Levy Mwanawasa. He also founded evangelistic campaigns and ministries and once served as pastor of the Victory Bible Church. He was Zambia’s High Commissioner to Canada from 2009 until 2011.

He founded evangelistic promotions and ministries and offered as pastor from the Success Bible Cathedral. He was elected Leader of the Motion for Multiparty Democracy in 2012.

Dr. Nevers Mumba studied theology in the United States and for close to two decades he has pulled in huge crowds, preaching with eloquence a message of hope and dignity through Christ.
SPEAKERS

H.E. Lansana Kouyaté
Former Prime Minister, Guinea

His Excellency Lansana Kouyaté is a Guinean politician and diplomat who served as Prime Minister of Guinea (2007). In June 1994, Lansana became the Assistant Secretary-General in the UN Department of Political Affairs, one of his first missions being a tour around ECOWAS member states to discuss the situation in Liberia.

He continued his involvement in discussions to build regional support for a resolution of the First Liberian Civil War. He left this job in September 1997 to become the Executive Secretary of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), a post he held until February 2002.

He received different distinctions and decorations such as Commander of the Mono Order (Togo, 1998), Commander of the Order of the Star of Africa (Liberia, 1998), Commander of the Legion of Honor (France, 2000), Commander of the National Order of Mali (Mali, 2001), Commander of the Memorial Peace (Awarded to UNESCO) by the International Association of Soldiers for Peace “Association peacekeepers of the UN”, Graduated from the Gold Medal of the Universal League of Public Good N° 45729, awarded on April 08, 2019 in Paris, Crans Montana Forum Prize (2001) or African Leadership Award (Morocco, 2015).

Ambassador Irene Giner-Reichl
President and Advisor, Global Women Network, Global Sustainable Forum

Irene Giner-Reichl has been a member of the Austrian Diplomatic Service since 1982. Her main areas of expertise are economic and social development, women’s rights’ issues, environment, energy, and development cooperation.

Irene Giner-Reichl has held numerous international bureau functions. From 1995 to 1998 she was director of the international department of the Austrian Ministry for the Environment. From 1998 to 2001 she was Austria’s permanent representative to the UN, IAEA, UNIDO and CTBTO in Vienna. From 2001 to 2004 she headed the UNIDO office in New York in the rank of assistant director general. From 2005 to 2012 she was director general in charge of Austria’s development policy and cooperation.

Since 2012, she held the position of Austrian ambassador to the People’s Republic of China and Mongolia until recently when she transitioned to her current position.

Irene Giner-Reichl is president of the Global Forum on Sustainable Energy (GFSE), which she founded in 1999 as a multi-stakeholder platform for dialogues on energy in the service of sustainable development, and vice-president of the REN21 steering committee.

She has published books and articles on international relations and global issues. She has lectured at the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna for several years on human security and development policy.
Robert Stoner  
Deputy Director of the MIT Energy Initiative and Executive Director of the MIT-Tsinghua-Cambridge Low Carbon Energy University Alliance, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge MA

After earning his Ph.D. in condensed matter physics at Brown University in 1992, Dr. Stoner joined the Microprocessor Development Group at Intel Corporation. In 1995, he formed Cooper Mountain Corporation, which developed the first commercial instruments to incorporate ultrafast pulsed lasers. These instruments, based on the picosecond ultrasonic method which he co-invented, are now extensively used to characterize computer chips during production. He subsequently founded Vinestone Corporation, a UK-based peer-to-peer database and workflow software developer. Dr. Stoner later held a number of senior executive positions and served as Chairman of the Technical Advisory Board at Zygo Corporation, a developer of precision optical systems and instruments for the global consumer electronics, aerospace and semiconductor industries.

Dr. Stoner received a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Physics from Queen’s University, Canada. He was a National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada Scholar, and holds US patents in the fields of semiconductor devices, optical measurement and imaging systems, optical devices, network computing, and acoustics. His current technical interests include high resolution imaging techniques, distributed computing, and energy distribution and storage technology and policy for developing countries.
Karen Riley
Provost, Regis University

Karen Riley is Provost (chief academic officer) at Regis University in Denver, Colorado. Before joining Regis in 2021, Riley was dean of the Morgridge College of Education at the University of Denver for seven years. She also served as the university’s strategic director for health initiatives, an effort to nurture signature research programs. She is an internationally recognized expert in neurodevelopmental disorders, and her scholarship focuses on interdisciplinary and intersystem approaches to addressing the complex issues of today’s society and to improving the lives of children and families effected by fragile X syndrome and Down syndrome. Riley’s prior research has focused on educational and behavioral interventions and outcome measures related to targeted treatments. She has authored or co-authored more than 50 book chapters, clinical guidelines, and journal articles, has over 150 national and international conference presentations. She has served as the PI or CO-PI on research grants exceeding $5.8 million dollars from funders including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, DARPA, the National Institute of Health, and the Institute for Educational Sciences.

As a leader in the community and within the field of education, Riley serves on several boards and community committees. These include the Colorado Center for Rural Education, the Mayor’s Education Compact, National Fragile X Clinical and Scientific Advisory Council, Center for Disease Control Outcome Measures Advisory Committee, Denver Museum of Nature and Science Sticky Issues Task Force, Colorado Department of Education Educator Preparation Program Advisory Committee.

Dr. Riley holds an MA in Early Childhood Special Education and a PhD in Educational Psychology with a concentration in Child and Family Studies from the Morgridge College of Education at the University of Denver and a BS in Psychology from Colorado State University. Dr. Riley was the recipient of the FRAXA Post-Doctoral Fellowship at The Children’s Hospital in Denver. Dean Riley has received numerous awards including National Fragile X Foundation Clinical Award for Translational Research (2018) the National Fragile X Foundation Outstanding Service Award (2010), and the DU Academic Spotlight Honoree (2012).

Honorable Matthew Nkhuwa
Former Minister of Energy, Republic of Zambia

Honorable Matthew Nkhuwa was appointed Minister of Energy by President Edgar Lungu of the Republic of Zambia. Prior to his becoming Minister of Energy, he served as Minister of Works and Supply.

Honorable Matthew Nkhuwa is also a Member of Parliament for Chingola on the Copperbelt. In that capacity he has served on various parliamentary committees including the committee on legal affairs, Human Rights, National Guidance, Gender and Governance.
Dr. Shari Plantz-Masters, Academic Dean of the Anderson College of Business and Computing at Regis University in Denver has broad experience in industry and academia. Dr. Plantz-Masters worked at the Research and Development Labs of U S WEST where she directed engineering teams that designed and deployed network-based products including Voice Messaging, and Internet based product including early Business Video Network Applications such as Video Conferencing and Switched Video services. Before taking on the role of Vice President of Network Planning with the responsibilities for the U S WEST Public Switched Network, Dr. Plantz-Masters led the marketing team that developed conferencing services for US WEST.

Prior to joining the Regis University faculty, Dr. Plantz-Masters ran a management consulting firm in which she provided project management leadership for Software Development organizations. She was appointed the founding Academic Dean of the College of Computer & Information Sciences in May 2015. Her research interests focus on the impact of technology on people, organizations and societies. She spearheaded the creation of the Center of Common Good Computing that brings together industry, government, and academia to focus on closing the tech talent gap in the industry and on applying tech for the betterment of society.

Shari holds a bachelor of arts in economics and political science and masters in telecommunications from the University of Colorado and Ph.D in Educational technology from the University of Northern Colorado.

Mr. Julius Mwale is a successful industrial entrepreneur and investor with more than 20 years of proven track record in innovative investments in Technology, Energy, Health, retail and construction industries.

Mr. Mwale is currently the principal of the US $ 2 billion Mwale Medical and Technology City (MMTC) based in Western Kenya where he was the lead investor. The City is built on 100% green concept and started construction in 2014 with 80% complete as of August 2019 and expected to be fully completed by December 2020.

Prior to that in early 2000s Mr. Mwale Founded and was the Chairman and President of SBA Technologies Inc. A New York based biometric company that pioneered string based biometric security technology that revolutionized the biometric industry worldwide.

Mr. Mwale’s education background is in Telecommunications engineering and sits on the boards mostly as chairman of more than 10 companies in Technology, retail, pharmaceutical, Health, Construction, Hospitality, Human resources, Energy and Engineering industries.

Since 2007 Mr. Mwale has been the Chairman of the American Institute for African Development Based in New York which works to promote good governance, universal healthcare and education access in 54 countries in Africa. It further promotes sustainable development in both rural and urban communities around the continent. Mr. Mwale is married to Kaila and they are blessed with three boys and two girls.
Greg Kushnir
*Founder and CEO, Emrod*

Greg Kushnir is the founder and CEO of Emrod. He is leading a team developing world-first long-range wireless power transfer technology for commercial purposes. Greg is an experienced founder who has been inventing and commercializing technology for over 15 years. He holds a BSc in Computer Science from The Academic College of Tel-Aviv and an MBA from the New York University’s Polytechnic University.

Emrod is opening the world’s access to sustainable power with long-range wireless power transfer technology. Emrod’s wireless system allows large amounts of energy to be sent safely across long distances without wires. This technology enables customers to power locations and applications that are challenging to manage using power line infrastructure.

Claudio Pedretti
*Founder and CEO, Green Climate, Green Climate Ventures*

Mr. Pedretti is an Italian serial entrepreneur and industry leader considered an expert in solar mini-grids and in DRE generation (Distributed Renewable Energy). He is currently serving in several boards in the energy sector around the world both profit and non-profit. He is also the President of the Board of Directors of the Alliance for Rural Electrification.

UN SDG7 “Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all” is his passion and focus. He founded few successful startups in the renewable energy sector. He is founder of Green Climate Venture (GCV) an early-stage impact investor focused in off-grid renewable energy sector and related applications.

Kate Steel
*Co-founder and Chief Operating Officer, Nithio*

Dr. Kate Steel has a long career in the off-grid power sector, most recently as Energy Director for Power Africa. Prior to Power Africa, Dr. Steel was on the Energy Access and Investments team at Google and was manager of the World Bank-IFC Lighting Africa initiative.

Kate holds Ph.D in Engineering Systems from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a Master’s of Engineering in Development Technologies from the University of Melbourne, and Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University.
Jessica Stephens

*Chief Executive Officer, African Minigrid Developers Association*

Jessica drives AMDA’s agenda to advocate and coordinate with industry, policy-makers, government authorities, and other stakeholders to ensure optimal development of the minigrid sector and its pivotal role in ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all Africans. Jessica is a recognized leader in the minigrid space with particular expertise on policy & regulation and the intersection between Public and Private institutions within decentralized energy. In her role as COO of AMDA she has led the research and publication of the first Benchmarking Study for African Minigrids (BAM) and Co-developed the Universal Electrification Fund (UEF). Jessica Stephens is an Entrepreneur who has founded several businesses in East Africa. She is currently chairing the Green Minigrid Partnership, on the Technical Advisory Committee for the UEF, as well as on the Advisory Board for Humboldt University’s PASDI-GAM project.

Ignacio Perez-Arriaga

*Director Research, GCEEP; Visiting Professor, MIT, Professor Comillas University, Spain and Florence School of Regulation, Italy*

Ignacio J. Pérez-Arriaga is a professor of electrical engineering at UPC, and founded its Institute for Research in Technology, which he served as director for 11 years. He is a permanent visiting professor at MIT (2008-present) in the Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research (CEEPR), and serves as director of energy training at the Florence School of Regulation, European University Institute, Florence, Italy, and is a member of the Spanish National Academy of Engineering and a Life Fellow of the IEEE.

He served for five years as commissioner at the Spanish Electricity Regulatory Commission, and was the independent member of the Single Electricity Market Committee of Ireland from 2007 to 2012. He also served as a member of the Board of Appeal of the Agency for the Coordination of Energy Regulators (ACER) in the EU. He has been a consultant for government agencies and utilities in more than 30 countries. He was a review editor of the 5th Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Prof. Pérez-Arriaga received his MS and PhD degrees in electrical engineering from MIT, and the electrical engineering degree from the Universidad Pontificia Comillas (UPC) in Madrid, Spain.
Koen Peters
*Executive Director, GOGLA*

Koen Peters is Executive Director at GOGLA, the association for the off-grid solar energy industry. Koen is a strong advocate of making market solutions work for public goals and believes the off-grid solar industry holds the key to the quickest, most cost-effective and overall best route towards universal energy access.

Koen is internationally oriented and throughout his 25+ yr career has been active in various private and public sector roles to support sustainable and green business development, with a specific interest in renewable energy.

He holds a MSc Degree of Environmental Engineering, from Wageningen Agricultural University and International Master of Business Administration (MBA), University Nyenrode and Kellogg School of Management (Northwestern University, USA).

Peter Storment
*Co-founder, Cedar Street Capital, LLC*

Peter is the co-founder of Cedar Street Capital, LLC, an advisory firm headquartered in New York that assists its emerging markets clients in raising capital in amounts greater than $20 million.

Peter has focused on promoting and facilitating growth over the course of his career, primarily through raising capital for growing firms, but he has also been an entrepreneur and founder of several firms over the course of his career.

Throughout the 1980’s and 1990’s his primary focus was on working to raise funds for early stage technology companies across a wide spectrum on industries. Early last decade, he changed the focus of his activities to the emerging markets of Africa and Latin America, and along with that switch in focus he shifted his activities towards more mature companies seeking expansion capital as opposed to early stage funding.

Over the course of his career he has worked on deals in virtually every large industry sector ranging from software and telecom to banking and agriculture.

In terms of standout transactions, Peter’s two most significant transactions were in the African financial sector. From 2005-2007 he helped raise over $50 million for the micro-lender Blue Financial Services of South Africa, and in 2007 he led a $161 million private equity investment into Intercontinental Bank of Nigeria.

In order to complete this transaction, Peter helped craft a novel deal structure which guaranteed the investors a refund in case of malfeasance by the bank. The bank was taken over and restructured by the Nigerian government, and the investors were able to successfully retrieve virtually their entire investment in legal proceedings.
Michael Farina  
*Executive Leader-Strategy and Growth, Integrated Gas and Power Solutions, Baker Hughes*

Michael is an executive leader at Baker Hughes. He is responsible for business development of integrated gas and power products and solutions. This includes early engagement and conceptual design on integrated gas and power projects. As a leader in Baker Hughes, he is also part of the Strategy and Marketing team helping to drive the companies gas value chain strategy and advance Baker Hughes’ global gas leadership with external partners and other stakeholders.

Michael has been gas and power strategy leader in the industry for more than two decades. He worked over the last ten years at General Electric in a variety of roles in support of the oil and gas and the power divisions. He joined the new Baker Hughes Company in 2018. Michael has focused on strategic marketing and business development related to unconventional resources, natural gas systems, gas to power, and distributed power including gas-renewable hybrids. In 2011, he authored Flare Gas Reduction: Recent global trends and policy considerations. In 2013, he was lead analyst and primary author of the Age of Gas and the Power of Networks and China’s Age of Gas white papers. In 2015, he published Gas to Power, Fast and Flexible Electricity for Rapidly Developing Countries. More recently, his focus has been flare gas solutions and complex gas project development including origination, technology solutions, and structuring.

Previously he was a Director of natural gas consulting at Cambridge Energy Research Associates (IHS-CERA) and has worked on LNG, pipeline, and gas-fired power plant development around the world. Michael holds a BA in Economics from Colorado State University and a MA in Economics from the University of Colorado.

Emilien Di Gennaro  
*CEO, SureChill*

Over 13 years of Managerial experience in General Management, Strategy & Planning, Business Partnering, Corporate Finance and Financial Audit roles acquiring strong knowledge across various continents, operations and functions.

Track record of driving organisations toward better operational and financial performance delivering action oriented financial and business performance information, proposing strategic direction and building a strong organisation to sustain the changes implemented.

Reached Country General Management role after 12 years of professional experiences working in blue chip MNCs, smaller FMCG companies, BIG4 and now in a fast growing start-up company. Having covered or partnered with most business functions in my career (Financial Planning & Analysis, Strategy, Commercial, Supply Chain, Corporate Finance, Controlling, Audit, Reporting, Treasury, Business Development,...) I am a hands-on General Manager able to coach directors on detailed Business Operations while being able to put in place Strategic direction of a company to deliver strong and profitable growth of the Business.
Luka Powanga  
**Professor and Executive Director, Regis University and Energy Africa Conference**

Dr. Luka Powanga is a professor of Economics and Finance in the Anderson College of Business and Computing at Regis University. He is the founder of the Energy Africa Conference (https://energyafricaconference.com) to help Africa meet its Energy Demand. He is also the founding member of the Denver Chapter of the Angel Capital Group (https://theangelcapitalgroup.com) and the Powanga Group (http://thepowangagroup.com), focused on connecting US investors to Projects in Africa. He is also the co-founder of the Africa Healthcare Group, focused on improving the quality and access to healthcare in Africa. He worked in the mining and telecommunications industry at local and international levels. He taught at Colorado School of Mines before transitioning to Regis University. He consults in economic development, mining, energy, international business management, healthcare and education. He has spoken at many business forums and sits on many boards.

Dr. Powanga holds a BSc degree in Metallurgy and Mineral Processing from the University of Zambia, Masters and Ph.D. degrees in Mineral Economics from Colorado School of Mines USA. He also holds a Master’s degree in Computer Information Technology (MSCIT) and Graduate Certificate in Object-Oriented Programming from Regis University.

David Howe  
**Former Finance Director of Addax Petroleum Nigeria**

Accomplished International CFO & Finance Management professional with significant experience that spans over 2 decades including, but not limited to; process mapping, change management in addition to business modelling at country, industry, and business unit levels across a wide range of industrial sectors. Experienced in Finance Management, JV Accounting, Financial Analysis, Cash Management and Accounts, Cash-flow Forecasts, Statements, Budget & Forecast Management and Control, Costing and Cost Reductions, Technology Integration, Regulatory Compliance / Listings in the UK, Canada, Hong Kong and Singapore. UK, US, Canadian, German and Swiss GAP US SOX Canadian SOX.

Professional background in the following industry sectors; Property Development Housing and Commercial Buildings, Heavy Construction Drilling Packages and FPSO, Oil & Gas, Mining, Manufacturing, Agriculture, Logistics & Aviation.
Patrick K. Tonui  
*Head of Policy, GOGLA*

Patrick is the Head of Policy and Regional Strategy for GOGLA, the voice of the off-grid solar industry. As Head of Policy and Regional Strategy is leading GOGLA’s work to engage with governments, development partners and other stakeholders, growing and strengthening the market for clean, quality Off-Grid lighting and electrical systems by engendering an enabling environment across Off-Grid markets.

Patrick is an experienced public policy, economic and trade development professional with over 20 years’ experience in the public and private sector conducting private sector development and support. Prior to joining GOGLA, Patrick worked for the International Finance Corporation to drive reform efforts to improve the business climate in Kenya and in the East African Community. He previously spent 7 years with the US State of Maryland’s Department of Business and Economic Development driving the state’s efforts to grow its Strategic and Innovation Sectors.

He holds an MBA and a Master of Science in International Business from Georgia State University and a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture from Egerton University in Kenya. Born and raised in Kenya, Patrick speaks English and Swahili.

George Ebuh  
*Managing Director, Petrolog Group of Companies*

George Ebuh is the Managing Director of the Petrolog Group of Companies, leading Petrolog’s international E&P services operations, including North America, Latin America and SSA regions. Prior to this role, he established and lead Petrolog’s operations in Latin America and expanded Petrolog’s footprint in the SSA region while increasing revenues 5-fold during this period.

He is proven leader with over 23 years’ experience in the energy sub sector, a world class international business development guru with an acute relationship management expertise.

He is pioneering Petrolog’s energy transition into the renewables sector, establishing its subsidiary, AFEFE, with a principal focus on offshore wind in the SSA region.

George Ebuh holds a degree in Chemical Engineering (Environmental Concentration) with a minor in Geophysics and is an Alumni of the Harvard Business School. He is a COREN certified Engineer with professional affiliations with AiChe, SPE, SEG, & NSE.
Carlo Brovero  
*Founder and CEO, StorEn Tech*

Carlo has served as our chief executive officer, treasurer and director since our inception in January 2017. As chief executive officer, Carlo is responsible for our general management, strategy and the execution of our business plan. Between March 2013 and January 2019, Carlo served as a consultant for eCaral Ltd., a management consulting firm, where he completed several consulting assignments in a variety of industries. Between March 2013 and May 2015, Brovero served as an advisory board member for Proxhima S.r.l., a vanadium flow battery company, which was sold to the Gala Group, a utility listed on the Milan Stock Exchange. Between September 2010 and November 2016, Carlo served as International Sales and Marketing Director for iVis Technologies, the manufacturer of an excimer laser therapeutic and refractive platform for corneal surgery.

Carlo started his career in corporate finance in 1991 at County Natwest in London, the merchant banking division of the National Westminster Bank. In 1996, Carlo opened the Milan office of Market Capital Corporation, a London-based corporate finance boutique, and was a director at Accretive International. Carlo managed several IPOs on four different European Exchanges for fast-growth technology companies such as the IPOs of the first Italian companies on Le Nouveau Marchè in Paris and NASDAQ EUROPE in Brussels, as well as NYSE Alternext in Paris and Nuovo Mercato in Milan. Carlo holds a MBA degree from Aston University in Birmingham, UK.

Sandra Liz Hon  
*CEO, H.T Energy and Annica Holdings Limited*

Sandra is the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of Annica Holdings Limited and H.T Energy, was appointed to the Board on 6 January 2016. Sandra is responsible for the Group’s strategic direction, business development and overall performance, drawing from her extensive experience in senior management in the areas of corporate finance, restructuring, business advisory and project financing. Prior to her position at Annica, Sandra had previously served as an independent director at a public listed company in Bursa Malaysia. She is passionate and active in the renewable energy and green technology industry and works closely with private equity players, both locally and abroad. Sandra has also been invited to speak at several international industry forums and seminars particularly in the area of renewable energy. Sandra holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Strathclyde.
Dr. Vivek Lall has recently been appointed Chief Executive of General Atomics Global Corporation based at their headquarters in San Diego, California. General Atomics is one of the world’s largest privately held nuclear and defense companies. GA and affiliated companies operate on five continents. The company produces a series of unmanned aircraft (Predator) and provides electro-optical, radar, signals intelligence, and automated airborne surveillance systems. GA produces electro-magnetic aircraft launch and recovery systems, satellite surveillance, electro-magnetic rail gun, high power laser, hypervelocity projectile, and power conversion systems. GA is the principal private sector participant in thermonuclear fusion research through its internationally recognized DIII-D and inertial confinement programs. GA is a leader in development of next-generation nuclear fission and high-temperature materials technologies.

Lall has recently been unanimously elected to both the Board of Directors of US Japan Business Council and the Global Board of Directors of the US India Business Council in Washington DC. In May 2018, he was appointed by the United States Government in a key advisory role for a two-year term to the US Cabinet Secretary heading Department of Transportation (encompassing entities like the Federal Aviation Administration) in Washington DC which affects US and global aviation policies and technologies. In January 2018, Lall was appointed as Vice President of Aeronautics Strategy and Business Development at Lockheed Martin based in Fort Worth, Texas. Lockheed Martin is the world’s largest defense company. In August 2014 he was appointed Chief Executive in charge of U.S. and International Strategic Development at General Atomics. From 1996-2011, Vivek held numerous marketing and engineering leadership roles with The Boeing Company in Seattle including the Airplane Performance and Propulsion Group. He was appointed as Vice President and India Country Head, Boeing Defense Space & Security in May 2007. He also worked as an adjunct faculty member at Embry- Riddle, McConnell Air Force Base. He also served as the founding Co-Chair of the US – India Aviation Cooperation Program launched in 2005. Prior to Boeing he worked for Raytheon and conducted research with NASA Ames Research Center in various multidisciplinary engineering fields. He was also appointed as a special advisor in 2014 to United Nations in New York, a role in which he helped steer the multi-nation body frame policy and its implementation in the area of broadband and associated cyber security issues.

Vivek earned a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering degree from Carleton University in Canada and a Masters of Aeronautical Engineering degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida. He also has his Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering from Wichita State University in Kansas and his MBA from City University in Seattle. He has also completed management and executive courses at the American Management Association in Washington DC. Vivek has been the recipient of several honors, including the 2008 OCA National Asian Pacific American Corporate Achievement Award in the US. Cambridge (UK) has listed him as one of only 2000 Outstanding Scientists of the Twentieth Century. He has also been cited in Who’s Who several times. He is in the Sigma Gamma Tau Aerospace Honor Society as well as the Pi Mu Epsilon Mathematics Honor Society. He was President of the Mathematical Association of America. He has authored over hundred articles in various journals. He was also trained as a private pilot at the Phoenix International Flight Training Center in Florida.
Ambassador Cheick Keita
Founder and President,
Open Business Africa (OBA) and Bridge of Innovations (BOI)

Ambassador Cheick Keita holds a master’s degree in public law, option law, economics, and management.

In 1996, he founded CIDIGA (Chamber of Initiatives for the Development of Investments of the Groupings in Africa) and works as its President. His mission is to produce and offer reliable socio-economic and political information and studies to promote significant investments in Africa.

The Ambassador also serves as the President of OPND Pan-African Observatory of Digital and President of OBA (Open Business Africa) and BOI (Bridge of Innovation) and CIDIGA.

He is the founder and President of BOI (Bridge of Innovations). BOI is a company that identifies innovative start-ups in Africa and supports them through its network of Business Angels and Ventures Capital to initiate their emergence. To this day, he has been part of the six innovative start-ups in Africa. As part of its HOPE FOR NEW AFRICA initiative and promoting entrepreneurship in Africa, Mr. Keita plans to create with the international partners, the PE (points entrepreneurship), a place of entrepreneurship in agreement with the international partners in each African country. Mr. Keita recently created OBA (Open Business Africa) to promote partnerships and joint ventures between companies in the South and North to establish new structures for transforming local products and assembly factories and essential equipment for developing critical sectors in Africa. Mr. Keita continues to participate in many international conferences on Africa and the ACP as a contributor and panelist in international organizations: OECD, UNESCO, World Bank, France, and the world. He is UNESCO’s Ambassador for the UNESCO event in Guinea, the book capital of the world. Since 2017, Mr. Keita Cheick is Ambassador of IHRC (International Human Right Commission) in charge of the Africa zone to follow the new strategy of this institution for the promotion of good governance, the prevention and the resolution of conflicts, the promotion of education for all, sustainable development, promoting new technologies applied to teaching and education for all, the socio-economic advancement of women for a better world.

He is the Senator of the WBAF (World Business Forum) and Président of the SMEs (Commonwealth Entrepreneurs club), and Ambassador of WUSME (World Union of Small and Medium Enterprises).

Mr. Cheick Keita is the recipient of several distinctions of the Guinea Talent Award by the HBO Talents of Africa organization, 2019. Mr. Cheick Keita was awarded in Abu Dhabi with a Special Award from the PALEDEC Panafrican Leadership Entrepreneurship Development Center to recognize his Africa investment promotion activities with his company OBA (Open business Africa) and for its initiative to create OPND (Pan-African Digital Observatory for Development).
Batchi Baldeh
Director, Power Systems, African Development Bank

Mr. Batchi Baldeh is an investment banker, infrastructure developer and utility management specialist, with over 34 years of professional experience across the power value chain and financing capital structure. Mr. Baldeh is currently the Director of Power Systems Development at the African Development Bank (AfDB), which he joined in May, 2017. He was responsible for the management of the AfDB’s private sector energy loan portfolio from February 2018 to March 2020.

Prior to joining AfDB, Mr. Baldeh was the Director – Power Business, Investments Division, at the Africa Finance Corporation. He has also been a consultant to the World Bank, European Union / BizClim and Government of Lesotho; and was the pioneer Managing Director of Gambia’s National Water and Electricity Company, from 1995 – 1999.

He is a Non-executive Director of the AFC and Development Bank of Nigeria (representing AfDB). He also served as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Cabeolica S.A. and Cenpower Operations and Services Limited; and an Alternate Director and Technical Committee member of the Benin Electricity Distribution Company (representing AFC).

Mr. Baldeh holds an MBA from Boston University (USA) and BSc – Honours in Electrical & Electronic Engineering from Newcastle-upon-Tyne University (UK). He is a member of the Institute of Engineering & Technology (UK) and a Fellow of the Institute of Directors, Southern Africa. He is well respected for his experience in developing, structuring and successfully managing power projects and utilities in complex technical, economic and socio-political environments.

He has successfully led teams to provide advice on policy formulation, implementation strategy, institutional reforms and investments in power and water infrastructure development.

He has a solid track record of structuring finance for large-scale infrastructure projects in the private and public sectors across Africa, including renewable energy projects, Independent Power Producers (IPPs) and supporting the West African Power Pool. Baldeh is the Chairman of the Board of two AFC investee companies, Cabeolica SA and Cenpower Operations Services Limited.

The President of the African Development Bank, Akinwumi Adesina, said of the appointment: “I am delighted Henry Paul Batchi Baldeh is joining the Bank. He brings a solid track record of practical experience in the power sector, development of advisory services, project development and management of power utilities. Henry is well respected within Africa’s power sector. He will be an asset to the Bank as we roll out our work on transforming Africa’s power sector.”
SPEAKERS

Bai Blyden
Retired Physicist, Southern Power

Over his 40-year professional career Bai has contributed his expertise to over forty major and minor power plant projects and their associated interconnections worldwide. This involved detailed power plant and transmission systems design engineering, Systems and operations planning, project development-feasibility assessment oversight, and construction management.

Among his more notable assignments, Mr. Blyden served as Project Manager on the Calpine team, which planned a 70,000 MW development program that included EPC oversight. Within this scope he also served as a site Construction Manager for the Emergency Peaker Program which constructed and commissioned eleven (11x 45 MW) General Electric simple cycle gas turbine units in response to California executive order D-26-01 issued to protect the grid around Silicon Valley at the peak of the 2001 California energy crisis. Mr. Blyden has also worked on large Nuclear, Hydro, and mid to small distributed energy systems, having held senior technical consulting and staff positions with various utilities, AE, and Manufacturing firms such as TVA; Pacific Gas & Electric; Bechtel, ABB, Cummins, The New York Power Authority, Texas Utilities. He is currently completing the updates on the electrical

An early advocate of an Integrated African Grid, Mr. Blyden has presented a conceptual framework and technical analysis for a centralized African Power pool with links to North Africa at the first IEEE Region 8 conference held in Nairobi, Kenya, December 1983. Since then, he has authored several papers on African Energy Development, emphasizing the strategic role of Regional Power Pool Interconnections, Micro Grids, and Knowledge transfer and development. Towards this end, he has developed The African Power Development Knowledge Engine, which is an advanced training and development conceptual framework designed to harness the dynamic results created by linking African technical colleges and universities to current international R&D focused on Power & Energy.

Mr. Blyden earned an MS EE from Moscow Energetics Institute in Power Systems, Generation and Industrial Distribution Systems. He has made numerous professional development awards, certifications, and accreditations. Fluent in multiple languages, which include English, French, Russian, Spanish, and Arabic. Mr. Blyden brings a multicultural mindset and an exceptional relationship-building acumen. He is a Senior Member of the IEEE and serves as Chair of the IEEE PES International Practices subcommittee for Africa, and is an IEEE Smart Village Global Ambassador. He also serves as a Senior Advisor to Centric Ltd a commercial startup with 21st century structurally advanced and sustainable Green building systems. He is the founder of the Strategic consulting group BBRM Group, LLC.
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