

# **Support Required for Local Off-grid Small and Medium Enterprises**

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# **Agenda**

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Welcome & Introductory Remarks

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# Overview of the Clean Energy Solutions Center

Philip Voris, Clean Energy Solutions Center

#### Overview of the Energy Access Practitioner Network

Ruchi Soni, Manager Energy Access, United Nations Foundation

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#### **Presentations**

- ➤ Emma Colenbrander, Head of Global Distributors Collective, Practical Action
- Erin Davis, Vice President, Social Investment Managers & Advisors (SIMA)
- Dan Murphy, Founder and Director, Catalyst Off-Grid Advisors

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Question and Answer Session



# **Clean Energy Ministerial**

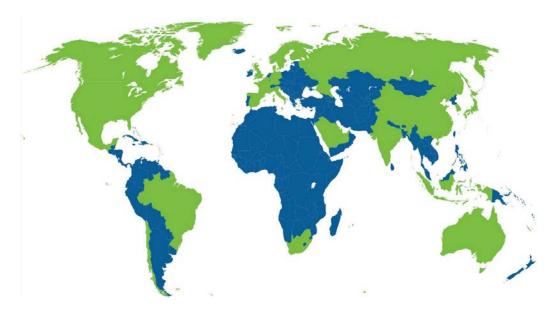


#### The Solutions Center:

 Launched under the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) in 2011

#### **Clean Energy Ministerial:**

 A high-level global forum to promote policies and programs that advance clean energy technology, to share lessons learned and best practices, and to encourage the transition to a global clean energy economy.



90%

of

Clean energy investment

**75%** 

of

Global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



# Solutions Center: Background & Vision

- Multilateral initiative, of the Clean Energy Ministerial, is co-led by the Australian Department of the Environment and Energy, the Swedish Ministry of the Environment and Energy, and the U.S. Department of Energy.
- Additional funding support from Power Africa & the Hewlett Foundation
- The Solutions Center is a unique CEM initiative assisting countries in all regions of the world in strengthening clean energy policies and finance measures
- Supporting transition of clean energy markets and technologies





### **Solutions Center: Goals and Audience**

Programs and Services

- Team of 60+ experts from around the globe responded to 450+ requests for policy support from more than 90 countries
  - Extensive support across Africa, Asia, and LAC
  - Launched support for finance measures in 2015
- Trained over 15,000 officials through more than 225 webinars and training events with others
- Strong & growing partnerships with development agencies and regional and global organizations in delivery of support
- Over 2500 resources in curated library for policy makers

Target
Audiences

- Primary
  - Government Policy Makers and Advisors
- Secondary
  - Private-Sector Companies
  - Energy Entrepreneurs and Investors
  - Non-Governmental Organizations
  - Civil Society
  - Others Engaged in Clean Energy

## **Solutions Center: Partnerships**

### More than 35 international partners:

- Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN)
- ECOWAS Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE)
- Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- International Energy Agency (IEA)
- International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC)
- International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
- Low Emission Development Strategies Global Partnership (LEDS-GP)
- Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (REN21)
- Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment)
- USAID Power Africa (USAID PA)









# Ask an Expert: Our Experts in Action



We connect you to a global network of energy experts for personalized attention and quick response technical assistance on **strategies**, **regulations**, **standards**, **financial incentives**, **and energy transition programs** for a broad range of clean energy sectors and technologies including:

- Energy Access
- Energy Efficiency
- Renewable Energy
- Smart Grid
- Transportation
- Utilities
- Carbon Capture Utilization & Storage



# Ruchi Soni, Manager of Energy Access, UN Foundation



Ruchi Soni is Manager of Energy Access at the UN Foundation, where she oversees the Energy Access Practitioner Network and the Foundation's involvement in the Mini-Grids Partnership (MGP). She worked for the World Bank for nine years, where she was responsible for the design and scaling-up of commercially-viable and innovative business models for electricity access. More recently, she was the program manager at wPOWER, a U.S Department of State initiative, where she directed program development, donor management and communication for wPOWER Hub's impact.

Ruchi has worked on policy issues, authored several publications on energy issues and contributed to global knowledge flagship products like RISE. She has been involved in designing and implementing national-level energy programs in Asia (India, Afghanistan, Fiji Islands), Latin America (Mexico) and Africa (Tanzania, Kenya). She was also responsible for program coordination, and resource planning for many of these programs and studies.

# Emma Colenbrander, Head of Global Distributors Collective, Practical Action



Emma is Head of the Global Distributors Collective at Practical Action, where she also leads the energy markets consulting portfolio. She is a Trustee at Ashden and a co-founder of Pollinate Energy, a multi-award winning social enterprise in India that brings clean energy products to urban slum communities. Emma has also worked with the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), focusing on development finance and innovation.

# Erin Davis, Vice President, Social Investment Managers & Advisors (SIMA)



Erin is a founding member and Vice President of Social Investment Managers & Advisors (SIMA), an impact asset manager with presence in New York, Nairobi, Karachi, and Geneva. SIMA's first fund is focused on investing in off-grid solar and microfinance companies that bring clean energy to low-income households across Africa and South Asia. It is expected to be one of the largest in the off-grid solar sector and to date has placed more than \$50mm. SIMA continues to engage a robust pipeline in its key markets and offers a range of debt products to fit the needs of suppliers, distributors, manufacturers, and financiers of off-grid solutions.

Previously, Erin worked in FINCA International's Social Enterprise and Financial Innovation department to develop FINCA's engagement in the social enterprise sector.

Erin has an MBA and a Master's in International Development from American University. She also has a BA in Hispanic Studies and worked for several years in a brain cancer lab at Harvard University/Dana-Farber Cancer Institute screening brain tumor therapies for pre-clinical studies.

# Dan Murphy, Director, Catalyst Off-Grid Advisors



Dan Murphy is the founder and Director of Catalyst Off-Grid Advisors, with over 20 years' experience working in 20+ sub-Saharan African countries. Catalyst is a specialized advisory firm that works with investors, enterprises, philanthropies, and sovereign clients to tackle the off-grid energy access challenge. Dan is also the Managing Director of VentureBuilder, a new development company that is supporting African -owned and -managed distribution companies to scale their off-grid solar activities.

Earlier in his career, Dan co-founded and was CEO of Sage Systems, a Côte d'Ivoire-based off-grid solar company. While at the World Bank from 2002 to 2015, he managed Lighting Africa, the World Bank's flagship program to support off-grid energy access, led teams dealing with some of Africa's most complex power generation projects, managed the World Bank office and portfolio in Cameroon, and designed community development projects in West Africa.

### **Question and Answer Session**







Ruchi Soni, UN Foundation



Emma Colenbrander, Practical Action



Erin Davis, SIMA



Dan Murphy,
Catalyst Off-Grid
Advisors

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