



# Getting Investment Where It's Needed: How do we level the playing field?

26 June 2018



## Some Housekeeping Items

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# Some Housekeeping Items (continued)

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## **Agenda**

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Welcome & Introductory Remarks

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# Overview of the Clean Energy Solutions Center

Vickie Healey, Clean Energy Solutions Center

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#### **Presentations**

- Laura E. Williamson, Outreach & Communication Manager, Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21)
- Christine Grüning, Senior Project Manager / Policy Expert, Frankfurt School – UNEP Centre for Climate & Sustainable Energy Finance
- ➤ Aaron Leopold, Chief Executive Officer, Africa Minigrid Developers Association
- Kanika Chawla, Senior Programme Lead, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)

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, Sweden's Ministry of the Environment and Energy, and the U.S. Department of Energy.
- Additional funding support from Power Africa
- In-kind support from Chile
- 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



\*US participation & leadership are under review.

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

Programs and Services

- Team of 50+ experts from around the globe responded to nearly 450 requests for policy support from more than 80 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 3000 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:

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



# Laura E. Williamson, Outreach & Communication Manager, REN21



Laura E. Williamson is responsible for directing communication and outreach activities at REN21, the Renewable Energy Policy Network of the 21st Century, housed at the United Nations Environment Programme in Paris. Laura's other activities include managing the production of thematic reports on renewable energy and coordinating the biennial International Renewable Energy Conference. From 2008 to 2013, Laura was the Project Director for HELIO International, an international think-tank developing renewable energy solutions. Previously, she worked for the United Nations Environment Programme on industry and sustainability issues. Laura holds degrees from the University of Chicago and Tufts University and has more than 20 years of work experience in the field of renewable energy

# Christine Grüning, Senior Project Manager / Policy Expert, Frankfurt School – UNEP Centre for Climate & Sustainable Energy Finance



Dr. Christine Grüning delivers a strong interdisciplinary background in environmental economics, finance and policy. Since 2011 she is managing and implementing applied research, education and capacity building projects for the Frankfurt School-UNEP Collaborating Centre for Climate & Sustainable Energy Finance. In her role as senior project manager she combines applied research on policy-relevant topics in climate finance and policy with an orientation towards practical application and final implementation. Her current fields of research are the economics of climate change, barriers on investment in mitigation and adaptation finance, market imperfections, and results-based climate finance. She has been crucial for the success of the annual report "Global Trends in Renewable Energy Finance" in cooperation with Bloomberg New Energy Finance and UN Environment over the last 12 years and the development and implementation of the Certified Expert of Climate Adaptation Finance, Certified Expert of Climate & Renewable Energy Finance and the Adaptation Finance Fellowship Programme (AFFP). Between 1999 and 2004 she studied International Business Administration at the European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder). She holds a Bachelor Degree in Financial Studies from Manchester Metropolitan University (UK) and a Maestria de Dirección de Empresas (MBA) from the Universidad Católica de Códoba (Argentina). Subsequently she joined the Chair of Public Finance and Environmental Economics at the European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder) and received a doctoral degree in 2010.

# **Aaron Leopold, Chief Executive Officer, Africa Mini-grid Developers Association**



Aaron Leopold began work as the first CEO of the Africa Mini-grid Developers Association (AMDA) based in Nairobi, where he is working to rapidly improve market intelligence, policy coherence and financing opportunities in the mini-grid space across the continent. He currently also serves on the Private Sector Advisory Group of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), and the Board of Directors of the Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE), another global industry association focusing primarily on mini-grid developers and operators. Prior to working with AMDA he served as Practical Action's Global Energy Representative for 4.5 years and was co-lead author of their annual Poor People's Energy Outlook report. He also spearheaded Practical Action's global strategic work with donors, financiers and the private sector to develop new ways of scaling and improving work on energy access. Aaron was also a co-founder and deputy-director of the Power for All partnership and campaign. Before his focus turned specifically to energy for development, Aaron was the Director of Environment & Sustainable Development at the Global Governance Institute, a Brussels-based think tank he co-founded. He has published on renewable energy in a variety of contexts, and has a Master's degree in Global Political Economy from the University of Kassel, Germany.

# Kanika Chawla, Senior Programme Lead, Council on Energy, Environment and Water



Kanika Chawla is a policy specialist, working at the intersection of India's two revolutions: in renewable energy and in financial markets. As Senior Programme Lead at the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) (one of South Asia's leading think-tanks), Ms Chawla manages CEEW's work on renewable energy policy, finance, and jobs and skills. Her current responsibilities include: analysing financial risks affecting renewable energy investments in India; changing market conditions and tax regimes and their impact on renewable energy; managing CEEW's periodic surveys on RE jobs; and convening a high-level working group on renewable energy finance (comprising investors, developers and manufacturers). She is actively engaged with private and public enterprises within and outside India to design and develop new financial de-risking instruments and new financial institutions, such as green banks. She also works on the political economy of renewable energy and energy transitions. Her research has been used within government, by electricity regulators, and by international agencies and strategic philanthropies. Kanika has also undertaken extensive research on the International Solar Alliance, work which has been used periodically by the Government of India and other countries. Her columns have been published in various newspapers. She also leads CEEW's Women in Sustainability initiative to promote gender diversity.

#### **Question and Answer Session**









Laura Williamson, REN21

Christine Grüning, Frankfurt School UNEP

Aaron Leopold, AMDA

Kanika Chawla, CEEW

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