



Policy Dialogue on RENEWABLE GENERATION AND REGIONAL POWER TRADE IN AFRICA

20, 21 and 22 February, 2023

 Madrid, Spain



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PROFILES OF POLICY DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS

Professor Ignacio J. PÉREZ-ARRIAGA



Professor Ignacio J. PÉREZ-ARRIAGA is Interim Director of the African School of Regulation (ASR) since July 2022.

Prof. Pérez-Arriaga served for five years as commissioner at the Spanish Electricity Regulatory Commission, and from 2007 to 2012 he was the independent member of the Single Electricity Market Committee of Ireland. He was also a member of the Board of Appeal of the Agency for the Coordination of Energy Regulators (ACER) in the EU. He serves as director of energy training at the Florence School of Regulation, European University Institute, Florence, Italy. He has worked in power system dynamic analysis; monitoring and diagnosis of power system devices and systems; intelligent computer design of industrial systems, planning and operation of electric generation and networks; regulation and restructuring of the power industry; and sustainability of national and global energy models and electricity access in developing countries.

He has been a consultant for governmental agencies or electric utilities in more than 30 countries. Prof. Pérez-Arriaga is a member of the Spanish National Academy of Engineering and a Life Fellow of the IEEE. He has published more than 200 papers, been a principal investigator in more than 75 research projects, and supervised more than 30 doctoral theses on the aforementioned topics. He is a Senior Lecturer at MIT (2008-present), at the Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research (CEEPR).

He holds a MS and PhD in Electrical Engineering from MIT, and Electrical Engineer from Comillas University in Madrid, Spain.

Mariano MORAZZO



Mariano Morazzo is Deputy Director at Enel Foundation since 2022. Before this he has served Enel Group as Head of Energy Transition Polices in Latin America, coordinating Enel's positioning and advocacy in the Region. Mariano is an economist with experience in the design, analysis, and implementation of energy transition and climate policies at national, regional and global level.

Previously he worked for UNIDO (2009-2010), as international consultant on climate change policy, including carbon pricing support under the Kyoto Protocol to finance Ozone Depleting Substances emission reduction.

He holds a Master's Degree cum laude in Economics and Business Administration and a MSc in Sustainable Energy Management.

Luca SPINOSA



Luca Spinosa started his current tenure at Enel Foundation in January 2021; he now serves as a Researcher focusing on different projects, ranging from education ventures like the Open Africa Power program to research activities such as The Switch Report with fDi Intelligence.

Luca Spinosa holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and International Relations awarded cum laude by the University of Pavia. He also holds a double Master's Degree in Europe and Asia in Global Affairs from Sciences Po Paris and Fudan University. Before starting his academic career.

Carol OFAFA



Carol Ofafa is a researcher at the African School of Regulation initiative currently situated at the Robert Schuman Research Centre, EUI. Carol was among 60 young African Energy leaders on the Open Power Africa Fellowship program of training on the Regulations for Universal access to energy by the Florence School of regulation.

Previously Carol served for 9 years as an Electrical Engineer at the Kenya Electricity Transmission Company (KETRACO) where she was awarded the Head of State Commendation by H.E President Uhuru Kenyatta in December 2020.

She holds a M.Sc. Electronic and Electrical Engineering and Management from the University of Glasgow and a Bachelor's degree in Science Electrical and Electronic Engineering from the University of Nairobi.

Mirlan ALDAYAROV



Mirlan Aldayarov has been with the World Bank for over twenty years and currently leads the Markets, Connectivity, and Trade (MARCOT) program supporting operations and policy dialogue engagements across all regions globally. Mirlan has extensive operational experience in dealing with market reforms and regional integration and trade issues. He previously led energy dialogue, operations, and regional engagements in the Africa, Europe and Central Asia, and South Asia regions. Mirlan has an MBA from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and an M.A. from the Kyrgyz State University.

Robert VIGOTTI



Roberto Vigotti is the Secretary General of RES4Africa Foundation, a European think tank gathering 34 stakeholders from the clean energy value chain to accelerate Africa's RE transition, supporting wider participation of private players in delivering investments.

With a Master's Degree (1971) in Electrical Engineering, Roberto Vigotti spent 35 years in Enel power company R&D Division. During his career he was delegate in the Renewable Working Party of IEA since 1989, where he was Chair for 12 years and started the PV TCP, and member of the Coalition for Action of IRENA. In 2012, he embarked on the RES4Africa adventure.

Dr Xavier GARCIA-CASALS



Dr. Xavier Garcia-Casals is Senior Expert on the Energy Transition at the Policy Unit from IRENA's Knowledge Policy and Finance Centre, where he focuses on the transition socio-economic footprint analysis and power system marked design workstreams.

Over the last 30 years Xavier has been working on technical, economic, policy and social dimensions of the energy transition, from different perspectives (university, research institutes, consultancy, engineering, NGOs, international agency). The current focus of Xavier's activity is on measuring the socio-economic implications of transition roadmaps/scenarios, and on exploring the requirements for the structures needed to enable and support the transition.

Cathy OXBY



Cathy Oxby is a Commercial Officer at Africa GreenCo. She has more than 20 years of professional experience in the infrastructure and renewable energy sectors, both as a principal and an adviser, having trained as a project finance lawyer at Allen & Overy LLP before transitioning to a commercial role at an infrastructure fund and then consulting for various clients including the World Bank before co-founding Africa GreenCo.

GreenCo is headquartered in Zambia and is the first non-asset-owning member of the Southern African Power Pool.

Louise MATHU



Louise Mathu is currently the Regulatory Expert under EU Technical Assistance Facility for Sustainable Energy, supporting the initiative to establish the African School of Regulation (ASR). Her previous experience includes working in energy project financing while at Kenya's largest commercial bank and as a Commercial Legal Counsel for Kenya's main national power distribution company.

As a policy, regulatory and institutional expert, Louise has worked on notable projects, among them: formulation of a power exchange framework to facilitate regional power trade under the Northern Corridor Integration Project (Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda); and for the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) on a project to develop model customs and tariff frameworks for solar – a project covering 24 African countries.

Louise holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree and Master of Laws (LLM) degree in International Trade and Investments Law and has also undertaken courses on power sector regulation (with the Florence School of Regulation), on public private partnerships (PPPs) with the Institute of Public Private Partnerships (IP3) among others.

Magdalena WAŃKOWICZ



Magdalena Wankowicz is currently EU Technical Assistant Facility expert seconded to the Africa School of Regulation as Institutional relations expert - Connection and engagement with institutions in the energy regulation sector in Africa.

She is an international energy consultant with a legal background in European Union and comparative law. She has almost 20 years of professional experience including 15 years in energy sector, having in the past 14 years worked mainly on the different studies in African countries such as Kenya, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, South Africa, Sao Tome, Cote d'Ivoire, Tunisia, Benin or Ghana.

Between 2004 and end of 2021 she worked for French consulting company, AETS as a Project Director and Consultant on bilateral and multilateral donor-funded projects.

Anthony KAMARA



Anthony Kamara is Senior Programme and Communications Specialist with the Energy Nexus Network (TENN). He has diverse and progressive experience working in international development with national governments, private and public sectors across three continents – Africa, Europe and North America on energy issues.

For over a decade, he has worked with and supported countries in Sub-Saharan Africa meet their aspirations for a clean energy transition as well as advising and supporting high-level executives. He has worked with a broad range of stakeholders in multinational environments and has managed programmes, designed and implemented international communication strategies and global campaigns.

He holds graduate degrees from the University of Iowa and South Dakota State University and an undergraduate degree from Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia. .

Stephen DIHWA



Stephan Dihwa is the Executive Director, Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) Coordination Centre. Career achievements includes over 30 years of experience in the power sector. Started with Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA) in 1988 and rose through the ranks to Business Development Director of the Transmission subsidiary up to 2007. Worked as System Planning Advisor in EdM (Mozambique) in 2007 and as Senior Manager responsible for Planning and then Renewable Energy & System Integration in NamPower (Namibia) from 2008 to 2012. Worked from 2013 to 2016 as a consultant Power Engineer for African Development Bank in Zimbabwe. Was Principal Director in the Ministry of Energy and Power Development of Zimbabwe from 2016 to 2017. Joined SAPP in December 2017.

Holds a M.Sc. in Electrical Power Engineering, University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (UMIST), UK; B.Sc. Engineering Honours Electrical Engineering, University of Zimbabwe and Diploma in Management, Institute of Supervision & Management, UK.

Dr. Yohannes HAILU



Dr. Hailu is energy policy expert with the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), in the Private Sector Development and Finance Division; Energy, Infrastructure and Services Section. In current role, he works with African member States in pursuing continental, regional and country-level solutions to energy challenges, particularly in the areas of energy access, electricity market regulation, private sector investment in Africa's energy infrastructure, and energy planning. His recent works include co-development of a continental electricity market regulatory framework to crowd-in private investment, and country electricity market regulatory reviews

Prior to joining UNECA, Dr. Hailu served as Associate Director of Policy Research and Visiting Assistant Professor at Michigan State University.

Dr. Hailu holds a B.A. Degree in Economics and Finance from the University of Asmara in Eritrea, and M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Natural Resources Economics from West Virginia University.

Alison CHIKOVA



Engineer Alison Chikova is the Chief Engineer responsible for Planning and Operations at the Southern African Power Pool. He is responsible for technical issues including generation and transmission integration studies for the Interconnected SAPP Grid. He is also taking part in the development of the competitive, balancing and ancillary services markets in SAPP. He has been instrumental in developing transmission pricing arrangements in SAPP.

He has worked for the Ministry of Energy as an Energy Research and Development Officer in Zimbabwe addressing new generation projects developments including renewable energy and solar systems. In 1995 he moved to the power utility in Zimbabwe where he was heading the Generation Planning Unit. At ZESA, he was responsible for the planning of the generation projects including negotiating for power import contracts for Zimbabwe.

He holds a Master of Science Degree (1992) in Electrical Engineering from Kharkov Engineering Institute, in Ukraine, having specialised in Electrical Power Networks and Systems He also holds an Executive Diploma in Business Leadership. He is a Chartered Engineer and a Member of Zimbabwe Institute of Engineers, IEEE (USA) and IET (UK).

Rashid Ali ABDALLAH



Rashid Ali Abdallah has over 22 years experience in energy field at national, regional and continental level. He is the Executive Director of the African Energy Commission (AFREC) since November 2018. He undertaken several initiatives that support African energy transformation including the improvement of the investment in the energy sector in order to meet the Agenda 2063 commitments.

He holds a MS.c Project Management from Birmingham University - UK, Post Graduate Diploma in Energy Engineering and a B.Sc (Hons) Mechanical Engineering from Khartoum University- Sudan.

Dr Mohamedain E. SEIF ELNASR



Dr. Mohamedain E. Seif Elnasr is the Chief Executive Officer of the Regional Association of Energy Regulators of Eastern and Southern Africa (RAERESA) of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA).

Dr. Seif Elnasr is an energy policy and regulation expert with over 27 years of experience in management of initiatives and programmes promoting the development of energy in Eastern and Southern Africa. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics (macroeconomics and quantitative economics) and M.Sc. in economics (energy economics).

University (France) .

Elijah C. SICHONE



Elijah C. Sichone has thirty-two (32) years of experience in the energy sector. He has been in his current role, as the Executive Director of Regional Energy Regulators Association of Southern Africa (RERA) for seventeen (17) years. Prior to joining RERA in 2005, he worked for the then National Electricity Regulator (NER) of South Africa as a Special Project Coordinator.

Elijah holds a Bachelor of Engineering (BEng) Degree from the University of Zambia (UNZA), and Bachelor of Philosophy (BPhil) and Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Sustainable Development (specialising in Renewable and Sustainable Energy) from the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa.

Joseph KAPIKA



Joseph Kapika is a Senior Energy Specialist in the Energy and Extractives Global Practice of the World Bank Group. He is based in Pretoria, South Africa office where he leads and supports various teams across the Southern Africa region, including the Bank's regional power sector engagement. Joseph was part of the team that led the regulation theme of the flagship Rethinking Power Sector Reform in the Developing World, The World Bank (2020).

He holds a B.Eng. (Hons) in Electronics and Electrical Engineering from Loughborough University in England, and an M.Sc. in Economic Management and Policy from the University of Strathclyde in Scotland. Joseph is co-author of Power Sector Reform and Regulation: Lessons from Ghana, Kenya, Namibia, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia, HSRC Press (2013).

Juan Ma. RODRÍGUEZ



Juan Ma. Rodríguez since 1990 has worked at Red Eléctrica de España (REE, the Spanish TSO) where he is currently Manager of Verification and Inspection Department.

He has contributed to the feasibility studies for the Spain-Morocco interconnection; the extension of the synchronism through the Maghreb and Mashreq (2005 and 2010 tests); the feasibility interconnection of the Independent Power Systems (Russia and neighbours) with Continental Europe, and member of two investigating committees of power system disturbances in Europe (2003 and 2006).

He holds a degree in Electrical Engineering (1988), Comillas University (Madrid)

Dr. Hancox (Hans) JAOKO



Dr. Hancox (Hans) Jaoko is an international award-winning energy professional with 32 years of experience who is currently focused on Regional Power Trade and power pool development and the lead for Geothermal Resource development under Power Africa in addition to issues related to programming development in post-conflict countries.

Hans is currently with the Power Africa team based in Nairobi, Kenya. He holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Science, MSc in Renewable Energy and BSc as well as Postgraduate Diploma in Communication specializing in development support communications and certificate in Project Finance, among others.

Camille PAILLARD



Camille Paillard is an Energy Analyst at the International Energy Agency (IEA) within the Renewable Integration and Secure Electricity Unit. Her work focuses on the integration of wholesale electricity markets in China, demand-side flexibility in emerging economies, and regional interconnectors. .

Camille was an Economic Attaché at the French Embassy in China for several years, where she led the reporting & analysis of energy and climate policies in China, with a particular focus on power markets. Camille holds a double Master's degree in Engineering from ENSTA Paris and in Energy Economics from Paris-Saclay University (France) .

Dr. Towela NYIRENDA-JERE



Dr. Towela Nyirenda-Jere is head of the Economic Integration Division at the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD). The Division spearheads flagship programmes and implementation frameworks that advance regional integration in line with the aspirations of the African Union's Agenda 2063.

Dr. Nyirenda-Jere is an electrical engineer and development practitioner with more than 20 years' experience working in the private sector, academia and international development such as the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

KI Siengui APOLLINAIRE



KI Siengui Apollinaire is the Secretary General of the WAPP (West African Power Pool) since July 2015. He is an electromechanical engineer from Burkina Faso with more than 37 years of experience in electrical power.

As Secretary General of WAPP, Mr. KI has gained full support of ECOWAS countries for the vision and the objectives of WAPP. Under his leadership, in 2018, the first phase of the ECOWAS Regional Electricity Market was launched, the interconnection of ECOWAS' mainland countries was done and the headquarters of the institution housing the WAPP Information and Coordination Center built.

Honorary Award Mr. KI is Knight of the National Order of Burkina Faso.

Ifey IKEONU



Ifey Ikeonu is an Energy Policy, Markets, and Regulation Consultant. She has worked as an advisor on electricity sector reform, access, markets, and regulation across many African countries including Ghana, Eswatini, Gambia, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Zambia, Sierra Leone, Eritrea, Togo and Djibouti. She has also supported various regional power pools and regulators in the development of regulatory and operational instruments, including the West African Power Pool and the East African Power Pool.

Ifey was pivotal in the development of the regulatory framework for the regional electricity market of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and also played an active role in the power sector reform programme in Nigeria where she worked with various committees on the Legal and Regulatory aspects of the reform.

She holds a Master's degree in Law as well as an MBA in Sustainable Development.

Dr. Luis OLMOS



Dr. Luis Olmos belongs to the research staff of the institute for Research in technology, within the Comillas Pontifical University.

He is involved in a large number of research and consultancy projects commissioned by public entities and companies from Europe, Central and South America, and Africa. As a consultant for the European Commission, he is involved in the design and implementation of the Internal Electricity Market of the European Union.

He holds a degree in Industrial Engineering and a PhD. in Industrial Engineering, focused on the regulatory framework for the electricity transmission network in regional electricity markets, both from the Pontificia Comillas University.

Batchi BALDEH



Batchi Baldeh is currently the Director – Power Systems Development, at the African Development Bank (AfDB), under the Vice Presidency for Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth, which he joined in May 2017. He has over 36 years of professional experience across the power value chain, project development cycle and financing capital structure.

Batchi holds an MBA from Boston University (USA) and BSc - Honours in Electrical & Electronic Engineering from Newcastle-upon-Tyne University (UK). He is a Fellow of the Institute of Directors, Southern Africa.

Simone PASQUINI



Simone Pasquini is the Area Manager Africa, Consulting Division, CESI S.p.A. He has more than 15 years of experience in the power sector, with specific expertise in consultancy services for Transmission Operation and Renewables Integration Studies. Working experience in Europe, Africa and Middle East as Power System Consultant and Project Manager.

Simone is member of CIGRE and author of papers, mainly concerning power system modeling and analyses. He holds a MSc in Electrical Engineering and MBA.

Ibrahim SOUMANA



Soumana is Project Coordinator at the West African Power Pool (WAPP) Secretariat where he is responsible for the mobilization of funding for regional priority projects, the preparation of their pre-investment studies and the mobilization of financing for their implementation among others.

Mr. Soumana holds an Electrical Engineering degree and a Master's degree in Public and Private Project Ownership. He has more than 14 years of experience in the electricity sector, mainly in the planning of electrical networks, project preparation and management.

Alberto POTOTSCHNIG



Alberto Pototschnig is an economist with extensive experience in energy policy, regulation and market design issues, with a focus on European markets. Between 2010 and 2019 Alberto served as the first Director of the European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER).

In 2000 Alberto was appointed CEO of the Italian Electricity Market Operator, and later joined the Italian Transmission System Operator (TSO). From 2006 to 2010 he was a Partner in Mercados EMI,

Alberto regularly teaches in FSR training courses on regulatory and market design issues and directs the 'Regulatory Policy Workshop Series', the longest-running FSR workshop series, investigating the most topical issues in the energy sector.

Dr Amy ROSE



Amy Rose is a senior researcher in the Transmission Planning group at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. Her work focuses on decision support tools to inform power sector policy and regulatory decisions, grid integration of renewable energy, and international best practices for regional power sector planning and operations.

Dr. Rose has worked over 10 years with governments, utilities, and regulators in Africa, South Asia, and Central Asia.

She holds a Ph.D. and M.S. in Engineering System from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Elias ZIGAH



Elias Zigah is a Research Associate at the Florence School of Regulation (Robert Schuman Center for Advance Studies), working on the African School of Regulation initiative. He is an energy analyst with a background in energy economics and keen research interests in energy transition, power sector regulation and market design.

Previously, he was a researcher at the Climate Economics Chair in Paris, an organisation which researches the economics of climate change to inform the actions of policymakers, industry, academia and the public.

Elias holds a Master of Development Economics from Clermont Auvergne University in France and a Master of Science in Energy Economics from the University of Dundee in the United Kingdom.

Dr Wikus KRUGER



Dr Wikus Kruger is research lead and lecturer on power sector investment in sub-Saharan Africa at the Power Futures Lab, based at the University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Business. His research focuses on measures to accelerate investment, in particular into renewables, through structured procurement programmes such as auctions.

Dr. Wikus Kruger has been working in the African energy sector for 14 years.

He holds a PhD from UCT; an MSc from Antwerp University; and MPhil, BPhil and BA degrees from Stellenbosch University.

Federico PONTONI



Federico Pontoni is a senior energy advisor within the Senior Energy Advisory Program of the Tony Blair Institute (TBI), funded by Power Africa.

Federico is also the director of the research program Technologies for Energy Transition at FEEM, Eni Foundation.