



AFRICAN
SCHOOL OF
REGULATION

ASR WEBINAR

New opportunities for electricity retailing activities in Africa

Wednesday 30th October 2024 | 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm GMT

MEET THE PANELLISTS



**NICO PETERSCHMIDT
(INENSUS)**

Nico Peterschmidt, a seasoned entrepreneur and energy expert with nearly 20 years of experience, is the co-founder and CEO of INENSUS, a consultancy specializing in sustainable rural electrification via mini-grids. He also co-founded JUMEME, a pioneering micro-power utility in Tanzania, and Volt-Terra Ltd. in Uganda. These utilities serve as testing grounds for INENSUS, where innovative business models are refined under real-world conditions and later shared industry-wide. Nico co-developed the award-winning MicroPowerEconomy model and introduced The KeyMaker Model for rural industrialization. With extensive field experience living in solar-electrified villages, Nico's work is rooted in deep, practical insights. He has served as a juror for environmental and innovation awards, solidifying his role as a transformative leader in sustainable development.



**RICCARDO RIDOLFI
(EQUATORIAL
POWER)**

Riccardo is an energy access pioneer committed to ending energy poverty. He is the founder and CEO of Equatorial Power, a renewable energy company, focusing on access to productive energy through an integrated approach, beyond electrons to agro-processing and e-mobility. Riccardo is also the co-founder of AFRESCO, a C&I platform built specifically for Africa and African clients, seeking to accelerate the use of renewables and distributed energy systems to render power more reliable and affordable for the blossoming African industrial sector. Separately, Riccardo Chairs the Board EnerGrow, which he founded – a productive asset financing company designed to unlock the socio-economic benefit of access to power. Riccardo also sits on the Board of Umeme Ltd, Uganda's national electricity distribution company. He also sits on the Board of Axian Energy, a fast growing African conglomerate pioneering energy transition on the continent. Riccardo is a lawyer by training, qualified to practice in 3 jurisdictions, with 5 years' experience in capital markets and infrastructure, particularly structured finance, PPPs and foreign investment protection.

MEET THE PANELLISTS



HAROLD R. OBIGA

Harold R. Obiga is a seasoned regulatory, power, and renewable energy lawyer with a wealth of experience.

Serving as the Director of Legal Services for the Electricity Regulatory Authority of Uganda, Harold has built an impressive career over 17 years. His expertise spans legal, policy, and regulatory fields across power and electricity, renewable energy, telecommunications, finance, and banking. His work focuses on regulation, government relations, compliance, public-private partnerships, and alternative dispute resolution.

Over the span of his career, Harold has been pivotal in providing regulatory advice for publicly financed projects, resulting in the development of 783 MW of clean, renewable energy and the securing of over \$2 billion in funding. From 2013 to 2023, he significantly contributed to the success of the Global Energy Renewable Energy Feed-In Tariff Program (GETFiT), which developed a portfolio of 17 renewable energy projects, generating 158 MW of power. This attracted over \$455 million in private capital investments and delivered 760 GW of clean, renewable energy, providing access to clean energy for 200,000 households and benefiting 1.2 million people.

Harold's influence on Uganda's electricity sector has been transformative. Since 2022, he has led the restructuring of the second generation of reforms in the Electricity Sector, including overseeing the development and amendment of the Electricity Act, marking its most significant changes in 20 years. He has spearheaded the development of regulations for open access, direct sales, private sector power transmission, and off-grid power development, driving further evolution of the sector since its initial reforms in 1999.

Beyond Uganda, Harold has played a crucial role in harmonizing the electricity regulatory landscape across East Africa. Through the Energy Regulators Association of Eastern Africa (EREA) and the establishment of the Independent Regulatory Board (IRB) of the Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP) in 2023, he has worked with regulators from African countries, fostering regional cooperation and development.

Harold continues to be a staunch advocate for better regulation, collaborating with governments, public agencies, development finance institutions, and private

project developers. His efforts focus on devising and implementing financially sustainable legal, regulatory, and policy solutions for impactful infrastructure projects across Africa.

MEET THE MODERATOR



Keno Shiferaw is a professional in the power sector with over ten years of experience in planning and implementing electrification projects. He has contributed to several key initiatives in Ethiopia, including the country's first cross-border power interconnection project, the Ethio-Djibouti power interconnection project, and the National Electrification Planning 2.0. Currently, he is a member of the team at the African School of Regulation, where he focuses on promoting best regulatory practices across Africa.

KENO SHIFERAW
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