

SPEAKERS' BIOS



ABEL DIDIER TELLA

Director General, APUA

- Abel worked for 25 years at the Société Béninoise d'Énergie Electrique, the Benin national power utility, from 1983 to 2008.
- He carried out several power plants and electrification projects in Benin between 1983 and 1990.



[HTTPS://SHORTURL.AT/NLUY6](https://shorturl.at/nluy6)

ALEX ATUKUNDA

Head Network Operations, Umeme Limited

- Alex Atukunda is an Electrical Engineer, with vast experience in power distribution management, project management, Energy Loss Reduction, and metering.
- With 700,000 customers in his region, he leads a team of 370 direct staff in ensuring power supply reliability, prudent asset management, customer growth and energy loss reduction.



[HTTPS://UG.LINKEDIN.COM/IN/ALEX-ATUKUNDA-95A7B2241](https://ug.linkedin.com/in/alex-atukunda-95a7b2241)



ALEXIS RECHAIN

CEO, Str@tec-arc

- Alexis is a consultant specializing in social protection, public finances, and information systems.
- His firm has influenced over 40 countries, particularly in Africa, enhancing national health insurance systems and public financial reforms.



[LINKEDIN.COM/IN/ALEXIS-RECHAIN-63640B37](https://www.linkedin.com/in/alexis-rechain-63640b37)



BARBARA UNGARI

Operations Analyst, ESMAP/World Bank

- Barbara has over 10+ years of experience in international development & project and program management in the fields of energy access, energy efficiency, renewable energy, e-mobility, social & environmental framework, climate change mitigation, gender & social inclusion.
- She has supported various World Bank operations and engagements in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Colombia, India, Lao PDR, Maldives, Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda, Vietnam, Zambia.



[HTTPS://WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/IN/BARBARA-UNGARI/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/barbara-ungari/)



SPEAKERS' BIOS



BARRY MACCOLL

Senior Regional Manager, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)

- Barry's expertise encompasses nuclear, renewable energy, and electrical engineering. He oversees a broad region including Africa, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and Australia.
- At EPRI, a nonprofit focusing on energy and environmental research, Barry is responsible for client satisfaction, promoting thought leadership, and leading technology transfer.



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BRAJANATH DEY

Deputy General Manager, TPDDL

- 18 years of experience in the field of distribution utility.
- Brajanath is experienced in developing new products & solutions, and the introduction of new technologies for advancement in the field of distribution utility.



[HTTPS://BITLY.WS/39FK4](https://bitly.ws/39FK4)



CLEOPHAS OGUTU

Project Engineer-Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)-
Metering solutions at Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC)

- Cleophas has over over 14 years in the field of Smart Metering-AMI. Took active role in smart meters/ICT infrastructure; standardization, specifications and design. Accredited with successful implementation AMI projects.
- He has been the brain behind the innovation and design of effective Large Power-Commercial and Industrial energy meters, Small Commercial Meters and AMI system structure



[LINKEDIN.COM/IN/CLEOPHAS-OUMA-OGUTU-8773506A](https://www.linkedin.com/in/cleophas-ouma-ogutu-8773506a)

ERIK MAGNUS FERNSTROM

Practice Manager East Africa Energy Department, World Bank

- He oversees a lending portfolio of USD 6 Billion as well as the World Bank's Energy advisory and analytical services to countries in the region.
- His background spans more than 25 years in the Energy Industry.
- After joining the World Bank in 2003 he led large Energy sector reform programs in Africa with special emphasis on Sector Reform, Access to Electricity and development of Public Private partnerships.



[HTTPS://WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/IN/ERIK-FERNSTROM-5A74B8132/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/erik-fernstrom-5a74b8132/)



SPEAKERS' BIOS



GERHARD BROWN

Principal Engineer: IT, OT and Mobile Coordination, Energy Directorate, City of Cape Town

- Gerhard has dedicated years in the pursuit of academic and professional areas where electrical engineering and information technology converge.
- His passion lies in the practical implementation of smart grid technology.

 [RB.GY/JH4JJ2](https://www.linkedin.com/in/RB.GY/JH4JJ2)

GOKHAN TOSUN

Director - Technology and Smart Energy, MRC Turkey

- Director - Technology and Smart Energy, MRC Turkey
- Gokhan's work in smart grid systems and digitalization involves planning, design, and project implementation.
- He has contributed to projects globally, including in Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Kosovo, Bulgaria, Afghanistan, and Africa.

 [HTTPS://RB.GY/YJX3ES](https://www.linkedin.com/in/RB.GY/YJX3ES)



KABIR MALIK

Senior Energy Economist ESMAP/World Bank

- Kabir has over a decade of experience in the power sector supporting clients in areas of utility strengthening, electricity access, cross-border power trade, and renewables development.
- He currently leads the ESMAP's Utilities for Energy Transition program focusing on enabling utility digitalization, data driven decision-making and adoption of innovative business models across the globe in World Bank client countries.

 [HTTPS://WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/IN/KABIR-MALIK-61A44154/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kabir-malik-61A44154/)

MOUSTAPH BAÏDY BÂ

Directeur Principal, Conseiller Spécial Stratégies du
Directeur Général de Senelec

- Over twenty eight years experience in the Electrical Sector in Senegal. He conducted during almost fifteen years different Generation, Transmission and Distribution system programs, feasibility studies assessment, strategic plans, program funding and management

 [HTTPS://WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/IN/MOUSTAPH-BA%3C%AFDY-B%3CA2-284A2B49/?LOCALE=EN_US](https://www.linkedin.com/in/moustaph-ba%3C%AFDY-B%3CA2-284A2B49/?LOCALE=EN_US)



SPEAKERS' BIOS



NICK SINGH

Head - CoE for Smart Grids, Eskom, South Africa

- Nick has over 20 years of experience in the field of electronic engineering and project management.
- He leads a team of engineers and scientists and facilitates laboratories in the smart grid domain equipped to service the requirements of the power utility from generation to transmission to distribution, ending with the customer.

 [HTTPS://SHORTURL.AT/BCEMT](https://shorturl.at/bcemt)

PEDRO ANTMANN

Senior Consultant, World Bank

- Pedro has over 30 years of experience as a mechanical engineer with extensive background in the energy sector.
- As a World Bank expert, he specializes in institutional restructuring, regulation, and utilities management. Pedro has made notable contributions to over 40 global projects within the World Bank since 2008.

 [LINKEDIN.COM/IN/PEDRO-ANTMANN-90261717](https://www.linkedin.com/in/pedro-antmann-90261717)



RAVI SEETHAPATHY

Chairman, ISGF WG - RE & Microgrid | Chairman, Biosirus, Inc., Canada

- With over 35+ years of experience in the energy and power systems area in Canada, Ravi mentors several utilities and companies in their technology development.
- He is an invited speaker internationally and has co-authored over 50 technical papers and has published 50 articles.

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REBECCA CAMERON

Principle Professional Officer, Sustainable Energy Markets Department, City of Cape Town

- Rebecca works with a range of stakeholders to address critical energy issues relating to energy security across the City. This includes a specific focus on policy, strategy, and research to overcome challenges in innovative ways.
- She previously worked across Africa on energy and climate issues with a range of local and national governments.

 [RB.GY/PET2DL](https://rb.gy/pet2dl)



SPEAKERS' BIOS



REJI KUMAR PILLAI

**President, India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF)
Chairman, Global Smart Energy Federation (GSEF)**

- Internationally renowned expert with nearly four decades of experience in the electricity sector.
- Recognized thought leader in renewable energy, smart grid, smart cities, and electric mobility.

 [HTTPS://SHORTURL.AT/JKQRO](https://shorturl.at/jkqro)

REENA SURI

Executive Director, India Smart Grid Forum

- 19 years of experience in the energy sector.
- Responsible for the research of projects, advisory services, business development, training and capacity building programs, customer outreach activities, member's relations, and finances of ISGF.

 [HTTPS://SHORTURL.AT/CHONV](https://shorturl.at/chonv)



RENIER VAN ROOYEN

Chief Engineer, Smart Grids Centre of Excellence (Eskom Research, Testing and Development)

- Renier has earned numerous awards for innovation and has been recognized by Eskom R&D for his contributions within the engineering fields of control and instrumentation and as well as situational awareness.
- He is considered an expert in the field of situational awareness and software engineering.

 [LINKEDIN.COM/IN/VANROOYENRENIER](https://www.linkedin.com/in/vanrooyenrenier)

RODRIGO MALDONADO

Head Network Analysis and Technical Planning – Enel, Chile

- Rodrigo has nearly 20 years of experience developing different specialties within the Enel Group.
- He was responsible for leading the Engineering and Construction teams of transmission/distribution projects.
- He has participated in digitalization processes, through the incorporation of new technologies.

 [LINKEDIN.COM/IN/RODRIGO-MALDONADO-ITURRIETA-6B9098232](https://www.linkedin.com/in/rodrigo-maldonado-iturrieta-6b9098232)



SPEAKERS' BIOS



SUBHADIP RAYCHAUDHURI

Additional General Manager, Tata Power Delhi Distribution Company Limited (TPDDL)

- With expertise in energy, smart grid, SCADA, and AMI, Subhadip has a strong background in operations and engineering.
- His career demonstrates his commitment to learning and excellence in the field of power distribution and smart grid technology.



[HTTPS://RB.GY/XKTAEE](https://rb.gy/xktaee)

VINCENT YAO KOUAKOU

Director of Architecture and IS Projects within GS2E, Water and Electricity Services Group--GS2E , Cote D'Ivoire

- Experienced leader in information systems (IS) with more than 18 years of international experience in the Telecoms and Utilities sectors.
- Expert in IS strategy and digital transformation, specifically adapted to the needs of utility companies.
- Expertise in IoT/Smartgrid and Big Data.



[CI.LINKEDIN.COM/IN/YAO-VINCENT-KOUAKOU-0142036](https://www.linkedin.com/in/yao-vincent-kouakou-0142036)

