

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

- *Version 3* -

**6th International Conference on
Solar Technologies & Hybrid Mini Grids
to improve energy access**



6th International Conference
8—10 April 2026 | Mallorca, Spain

www.energy-access-conferences.com

WEDNESDAY APRIL 8

SIDE EVENT 1

Technical Visit: Spotlight on Campus Zero Emissions – Knowledge Transfer for Energy and Digital Transition

When: Wednesday April 8, 09:00 - 11:30

Hosted By: *The University of the Balearic Islands (UIB) and CERES project*

Where: SALA D'ACTES

Discover how UIB is transforming its campus into a zero-emissions, energy-resilient model. The session provides an overview of UIB's own sustainability roadmap, highlighting real-world solutions in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and digital innovation.

Participants will then join an immersive technical visit across key facilities, including the central HVAC and heat-pump plant, the district heating and cooling node, major solar PV clusters, a 5 MWh battery system, and the campus V2G smart-charging hub. The tour concludes at the sports centre's solar-thermal installation—showcasing a fully integrated, replicable approach to clean, smart, and resilient campus energy systems.

Access the full Side Event Programme [here](#).



SIDE EVENT 2

Energy Access Innovation Lab Session



When: Wednesday April 8, 09:00 - 12:30

Hosted By: *Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Energy/ Affordable Energy for Humanity (AE4H) Program (Canada) & Reiner Lemoine Institute (Germany)*

Where: AB03

The goal of the 'Innovation Lab' is to develop and stress test a specific set of solutions for rapid implementation in the context of energy access in a disadvantaged community. We will rely on the diverse, but, deep expertise that each participant brings to the lab. It is a dynamic learning platform that relies on a multi-disciplinary approach to provision of energy services for the very poor.

The objective of this half day session is to kick-off the S-Access conference with an engaging set of in-depth discussions on 'what you want to do next' in the field of energy access. This contrasts with the primary mode of traditional conferences, which asks 'what you have done before'. The goal is to provide open space for new collaborations and project ideas to emerge, which can then be discussed informally throughout the rest of the conference and pursued thereafter.

Access the full Side Event Programme [here](#).

13:15	REGISTRATION OPEN
14:00 – 14:30	<p>OPENING PLENARY SESSION</p> <p> SALA D'ACTES</p> <p>Opening Address TBC</p> <p>Xavier Vallvé, Trama TecnoAmbiental – TTA (Spain) Werner Weiss, Institute for Sustainable Technologies - AEE-INTEC (Austria) Dr. Andreu Moià, Universitat de les Illes Balears – UIB (Spain)</p>
14:30 – 16:30	<p>SESSION 1 – PLENARY: MEASURES TO BOOST ACCESS AND IMPACT</p> <p> SALA D'ACTES</p> <p>Chairs: Daniel Zimmerle, Colorado State University, (USA) Werner Weiss, AEE-INTEC - Institute for Sustainable Technologies (Austria)</p>
14:30 – 14:35	Opening Brief
14:35 – 14:50	Geospatial Electrification Planning Methodologies: Comparative Analysis Frank Bergh, NRECA International (USA)
14:50 – 15:05	Solar Thermal Roadmap and Implementation Plan for Nepal Werner Weiss, AEE-INTEC - Institute for Sustainable Technologies (Austria)
15:05 – 15:20	From Training to Employment: Building Myanmar's Solar Workforce through Inclusive, Market-Aligned Programs Natasha Allen, Mee Panyar (Myanmar)
15:20 – 15:30	Discussion
15:30 – 15:45	Beyond Access: Coupling Rural Energy Systems with Innovative Mobility Solutions Philipp Blechinger, Reiner Lemoine Institut - RLI (Germany)
15:45 – 16:00	Landscape Mapping of Space Cooling Solutions in Rural Areas of Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia Florenca Azar Sales, Energy Saving Trust / Efficiency for Access (United Kingdom)
16:00 – 16:15	Suriname - Bio-economy empowerment in Suriname indigenous communities through access to Water, Energy, and Telecommunications (Bio-SWEET) Sergio Enrique Ballón, Inter-American Development Bank – IADB (LAC)
16:15 – 16:30	Discussion
16:30 – 17:00	<p>COFFEE BREAK</p> <p><i>Group Photograph</i></p>
17:00 – 17:15	<p>INDUSTRY FORUM INNOVATIVE SYSTEMS AND PRODUCT PITCHES</p> <p> SALA D'ACTES</p> <p>Session Organizer: Ingo Vosseler, S-Access (Spain)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEGASA (Spain) • Solar23 (Germany) • TERA Batteries (Spain)

SESSION 2A - PARALLEL: POSTER PITCHES  Moderator: Julissa Kiyenje, S-Access (Spain)	
17:15 –	Experimental Investigation of an Atmospheric Water Generator in a Controlled Environment: Prospecting for Application in Madagascar's Climate Ando Ny Aina Randriantsoa, Univ. Bretagne Sud (France)
18:30	Solar PVT Water Purification System for Rural Areas: A Case Study for Lesotho Moruti Kao, Energy Research Centre, National University of Lesotho (Lesotho)
	Beyond Silos: Strengthening Nexus Collaboration to Power Food Systems with Off-Grid Solar Rachel Currah, Agri-Energy Coalition / Energy Saving Trust (United Kingdom)
	Smart off-grid solar appliances: Using remote monitoring to improve efficiency, performance and affordability Florencia Azar Sales, Energy Saving Trust/Efficiency for Access (United Kingdom)
	Experimental Performance Analysis of a Pucca Solar Cooker After More Than 10 Years of Use Celestino Ruivo, ISE, University of Algarve, ADAI (Portugal)
	Solar cookers as a solution to the shortage of cooking fuel in Burundi. VET to stop deforestation Erasmus+ project Maria Elena Castrillo, IES La Merced
	Modelling & Simulation of the Thermal Performance of a 200-Litre Domestic Hot Water Storage Tank in Summer and Winter Seasons of Botswana Kago R. Rabasoma, UoB, Clean Energy Research Centre (Botswana)
	Temporal Demand Modelling of Heat Pump Integration in Lesotho's Long-Term Energy Plans Mpho Yengane, Energy Research Centre at National University of Lesotho, (Lesotho)
	Possibilities of forecasting energy yields from solar collector installations Gabriela Sadowska, Lublin University of Technology (Poland)
	Comparative Analysis for Two Monitored Solar Water Heating Systems in the University of Botswana: Preliminary Results Prof Dr Kevin N. Nwaigwe, UoB, Clean Energy Research Centre (Botswana)
	Techno-Economic Assessment of Solar Water Heating Systems: A Proof-Of-Concept for Large-Scale Deployment in Namibia Joseph Shigwedha, Namibia University of Science and Technology – Namibia Energy Institute (Namibia)
	A Simple Forecast Model for Cooling Energy Consumption in Buildings Wiktoria Łokczewska, Lublin University of Technology (Poland)
	Finance shifts for transforming sustainable energy access Whitney Pailman, University of Cape Town (South Africa)
	Powering Development and Environmental Resilience in the Amazon (PODER) Hali McKinley Lester, Global Energy Alliance – GEAPP (USA)
	The inclusion of the UIB in sustainability rankings Yanisleidy Quevedo Reyes, University of the Balearic Islands – UIB (Spain)
	Role Models as Catalysts for Gender Equity in Renewable Energy: Insights from Solar Thermal Training Tahwa Peter, Botswana SOLTRAIN+ University of Botswana, Clean Energy Research Centre (Botswana)
	Centers of Excellence for Resilient Entrepreneurship and Sustainable solutions (C.E.R.E.S project) Dr.Nikolaos Margaritis, CERTH (Greece)

	<p>Accelerating the Solar Energy Supplier Development Program through Institutional Trainings in Botswana: A case of the SOLTRAIN+ Project Kago R. Rabasoma, University of Botswana, Clean Energy Research Centre (Botswana)</p>
	<p>Global Knowledge Sharing on Energy Access and Renewables Dr. Carsten Hellpap, Energypedia (Germany)</p>
	<p>Training for Impact: Why Progressively Upskilling the Same People in Solar Thermal Works Khothatso Mpheqeke, South African National Energy Development Institute -SANEDI (South Africa)</p>

SESSION 2B - PARALLEL: POSTER PITCHES 	
<p>Moderator: Jatin Nathwani, WISE - University of Waterloo (Canada)</p>	
<p>17:15 – 18:30</p>	<p>Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) for improving rural electrification: insights from Mozambique Laura Nhancale, Mozambique Energy Regulatory Authority – ARENE (Mozambique)</p>
	<p>Implementing decree relating to self-production and renewable energy self-production communities Farida AHMED KARIM, UNDP (Comoros)</p>
	<p>Assessing Market Readiness for Private Investment in Solar Mini-Grids in Côte d’Ivoire Alyou Kone, Direction Générale de l’Energie, DGE (Côte d’Ivoire)</p>
	<p>Microgrid's future for Palestine, case study discussion Dr.Imad Ibrik, An-Najah National University Nablus (Palestine)</p>
	<p>IEA PVPS Task18 – Lithium-Ion batteries in PV off-grid applications Michael Müller, International Energy Agency – IEA (Germany)</p>
	<p>The value of digitalization for the growth and scale of Interconnected minigrids Folawiyo Aminu, Rocky Mountain Institute – RMI (USA)</p>
	<p>Digitalization Support Hub - Digitalization Support Scheme for Domestic Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises in the Distributed Renewable Energy Sector Daniel Mohns, EnAccess (Netherlands)</p>
	<p>Rural Electrification with Hybrid Mini - Grids: Finding an Efficient and Durable Ownership Model Helvi Iлека, Namibia Energy Institute (Namibia)</p>
	<p>The Harnessing Renewable Energy in Rural Sierra Leone to Promote Sustainable Development Mohamed Alhaji Munu, Sierra Power Renewable Energy Limited (Sierra Leone)</p>
	<p>IEA PVPS Task18 – off-grid and edge off-grid Photovoltaic systems Michael Müller, International Energy Agency – IEA (Germany)</p>
	<p>Experimental Study on the Energy Performance and Carbon Emission Reduction of Solar PV Vacuum Glazing–Retrofitted Windows Hongxing Yang, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Hong Kong)</p>
	<p>Indonesia’s blueprint for public financing of rural electrification Andre E. Susanto, Inovasi Dinamika Pratama (Indonesia)</p>
	<p>ZeroEMIT: Renewable Energy at Telecommunication Systems Pere Sabater, University of Balearic Islands – UIB (Spain)</p>
	<p>Multi-Terminal Hybrid Microgrid for emerging power systems Radu Plămănescu, Politehnica Bucharest (Romania)</p>

	<p>Solar integrated houses for mini grids Fredri Wymann, EWG Zürichsee (Switzerland)</p>
	<p>Framework for analyzing the impacts of socio-techno-economic parameters in local livelihood in sub-Saharan African mini-grids Antti Pinomaa, LUT University (Finland)</p>

SESSION 2C - PARALLEL: POSTER PITCHES  Chairs: Helvi Ilikea, Namibia Energy Institute (Namibia)	
17:15 –	<p>Least Cost Electrification Planning for the Solomon Islands: A Data-Driven Pathway to Universal Access Lucia Briganti, VIDA (South Africa)</p>
18:30	<p>Cost-competitive 24/7 renewable power for islands: least-cost PV and storage portfolios under multi-year variability Mohamad Alameh, Charged Island B.V.</p>
	<p>New Approach Leverages AI and Earth Observation via Energy Access Explorer to Map Small-Scale Solar Dr. Dimitris Mentis, World Resources Institute (Greece)</p>
	<p>Bridging the Distribution Cost Gap in Mini-Grid Modelling: A Heuristic-MST Tool for Accurate Low-Voltage Network Estimation Alessandro Onori, Politecnico di Milano (Italy)</p>
	<p>Clustering of load profiles and RAMP model calibration applied to productive uses of electricity in rural Benin Maxime Sehou, University of Liège (Belgium)</p>
	<p>Energy prediction study in the University of the Balearic Islands campus Sergio Sánchez Moragues, University of the Balearic Islands – UIB (Spain)</p>
	<p>From Energy Access to Livelihood Transformation: Stimulating Productive Use Through COMET’s Participatory Simulation Ayu Adbullah, Community Energy Toolkit – COMET (Malaysia)</p>
	<p>Comparative Analysis of Energy Demand Assessment: Collaborative Simulation vs. Traditional Survey in Mini-Grid Planning Aditya Perdana Putra Purnomo, Community Energy Toolkit – COMET (Malaysia)</p>
	<p>Energy consumption assessment at the Son Lledó campus of the University of the Balearic Islands Zaid García Sánchez, University of the Balearic Islands – UIB (Spain)</p>
	<p>Rethinking Off-grid Solutions: Empowering Communities through Productive Use of Energy a Case of rural Suriname Yohannes Aemro, VITO (Belgium)</p>
	<p>Access to energy in isolated rural communities. Corylus model Daniel Adrados, Energía sin Fronteras – ESF (Spain)</p>
	<p>From Strategy to Impact: Deploying Solar and Hybrid Technologies to Transform Energy Access in Haiti Scheffer F. Gilot, Energy Cell of MTPTC (Haiti)</p>
	<p>Sustainable Access to Basic Services in Isolated Coastal Communities of West Africa Javier Acerete Navarro, Canary Islands Institute of Technology S.A. – ITC (Spain)</p>
	<p>Increasing the Resilience of Isolated Amazon Communities through the integration of Hybrid Renewable Energy Systems (HRES) Daniel Odilio dos Santos, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina – UFSC (Brazil)</p>

	<p>Creation and application of the energy protocol using the community energy approach: a case study of Ndoro Village in Mozambique Castro António Soares, FUNAE – FP, Fundo de Energia (Mozambique)</p>
	<p>Integral Approach to the solar electrification of health centres in Niger Justino Rabo, ANERSOL (Niger)</p>
	<p>Examples of Productive Use of Renewable Energy (PURE) from Uganda and Senegal Stefan Trittler, Asantys Systems GmbH (Germany)</p>
	<p>Medical Appliances for Resource-Constrained Settings: Strategies for Context-Aware, Energy Efficient and Scalable Healthcare Solutions Ruth Kimani, CLASP (Kenya)</p>
	<p>Field Validation of a Hybrid PV-Diesel-Battery System for Agricultural – Industrial Energy Access in Burgos (Spain) María Isabel Ballesteros Sánchez, SMA Solar Technologoy AG (Germany)</p>
	<p>Reconfiguring a University MV Network to Integrate 7.7 MWp PV + 10 MWh Storage: The University of Balearic Islands Campus Case Z.G. Sánchez, University of Balearic Islands – UIB (Spain)</p>
18:30 – 19:30	WELCOME RECEPTION

THURSDAY APRIL 9

<p>09:00 – 10:30</p>	<p align="center">SESSION 3 – PLENARY: EMPOWERING VILLAGES THROUGH ENERGY ENGAGEMENT</p> <p align="center">Chairs:  SALA D'ACTES</p> <p align="center">Hali McKinley Lester, Global Energy Alliance – GEAPP (USA) Alexandra Arias, Comisión de Integración Energética Regional (CIER), LAC</p>
<p>09:00 – 09:05</p>	<p>Opening Brief</p>
<p>09:05 – 09:20</p>	<p>User Co-creation in Energy Access: Should or Must? Karima Fadla, University of Twente (Netherlands)</p>
<p>09:20 – 09:35</p>	<p>The importance of community engagement and developing PUE opportunities for eCooking on off-grid systems. Dr. Richard Sieff, MECS Programme (United Kingdom)</p>
<p>09:35 – 09:50</p>	<p>Energy access through community ownership: Operational experiences from two pilot mini-grids in Lesotho Moruti Kao, Energy Research Centre, National University of Lesotho (Lesotho)</p>
<p>09:50 – 10:05</p>	<p>Decentralized Interconnected Solar-Grid with Hydrogen System for Maximum Performance David Kodjo Bakayona, Don Bosco Solar and Renewable Energy Center (Ghana)</p>
<p>10:05 – 10:30</p>	<p>Discussion</p>
<p>10:30 – 11:15</p>	<p>COFFEE BREAK AND VISIT TO INDUSTRY AND POSTER EXHIBITION: Posters – Session 2A & 2B  EXHIBITION AREA – ES MERCAT</p>
<p>11:15 – 13:00</p>	<p align="center">SESSION 4A - PARALLEL: POLICY, REGULATIONS AND ENABLING FACTORS</p> <p align="center"> SALA D'ACTES</p> <p align="center">Chairs: Tatia Lemondzhava, ESMAP - World Bank Group, USA Samson Mhlanga, National University of Science and Technology (Zimbabwe)</p>
<p>11:15 – 11:20</p>	<p>Opening Brief</p>
<p>11:20 – 11:30</p>	<p>Policy Driving Energy Efficiency in Zimbabwe Samson Mhlanga, National University of Science and Technology (Zimbabwe)</p>
<p>11:30 – 11:40</p>	<p>Translating Policy into Practice: System Transformation in Mozambique's Off-Grid Energy Sector Vassilca Jeremias, Mozambique Energy Regulatory Authority - ARENE (Mozambique)</p>
<p>11:40 – 11:50</p>	<p>Interconnecting Off-Grid “Mini Grids”: Last Mile of Energy Access or Grid Distributed Energy Integration? Larisa Dobriansky, General MicroGrids (USA)</p>
<p>11:50 – 12:00</p>	<p>Implementing the Integrated Framework for Electrification (IFE) in Zambia: a proposal for Universal Access Clusters Nicolas Larranaga, Sustainable Energy for All – SEforALL (Austria)</p>

12:00 – 12:15	Discussion
12:15 – 12:25	Assessing Market Readiness for Private Investment in Mini Grids: A Promising New Approach in Niger through the 10 Building Blocks Nicolas Allien, The World Bank Group Energy Sector Management Assistance Program - ESMAP (USA)
12:25 – 12:35	Advancing Sustainable Hospitality Sector in Lesotho: Economic and Policy Insights from Energy Audits and Solar Thermal Modelling Reabetsoe Sehobai, Energy Research Centre, National University of Lesotho (Lesotho)
12:35 – 12:45	Energy Sovereignty in Indigenous Territories in Latin America: SHS Design, Technician Training, and Community Leadership Thomas Hilker, Love for Life – LFL (Germany)
12:45 – 13:00	Discussion

11:15 – 13:00	SESSION 4B - PARALLEL: DESIGN ASPECTS & TECHNOLOGY  AB03 Chairs: Dr. Nikolaos Margaritis, Center for Research & Technology Hellas (Greece) Boaventura Cuamba, Eduardo Mondlane University (Mozambique)
11:15 – 11:20	<i>Opening Brief</i>
11:20 – 11:30	Advances in PV Cooking: Mini-grids versus Individual Systems Dr. Peter Lilienthal, EarthSpark International (USA)
11:30 – 11:40	Feasibility Study of Concentrating Solar Thermal (CST) Plant for Process Heat Application in a Textile Industry Dr. Dwipen Boruah, Global Sustainable Energy Solutions India Private Limited (India)
11:40 – 11:50	Demonstration of innovative solar thermal technology for District Heating and Cooling in Greece Dr. Nikolaos Margaritis, Center for Research & Technology Hellas (Greece)
11:50 – 12:00	Implementation and Results of a Solar Water Heating Test Center in Namibia Rudolf Moschik, AEE INTEC (Austria)
12:00 – 12:15	Discussion
12:15 – 12:25	Mesh Grids: A Technical Deep-Dive into Scalable Rural Electrification Oscar Aitchison, Okra Solar (Australia)
12:25 – 12:35	Assessment of Water Access and Reliability of Solar Water Pumping Systems for Irrigation: Case Study in Ressano Garcia, Marracuene, Magude, and Moamba Boaventura Cuamba, Eduardo Mondlane University (Mozambique)
12:35 – 12:45	Designing Resilient Microgrids for Rural Healthcare: Seva for Africa Experience Eng. Giovanni Molinari, Seva for Africa ETS (Italy)
12:45 – 13:00	Discussion

<p>11:15 – 13:00</p>	<p align="center">SESSION 4C - PARALLEL: CAPACITY BUILDING & LIVELIHOODS</p> <p align="center"> SALA DE GRAUS B</p> <p align="center">Chairs: Tjut S. Devi, Retracemento Energi Persada (Indonesia) Clara Santamaria Echaniz, Solartys (Spain)</p>
<p>11:15 – 11:20</p>	<p>Opening Brief</p>
<p>11:20 – 11:30</p>	<p>SEIAPI Capacity Building Activities in the Pacific Geoff Stapleton, Sustainable Energy Industry Association of the Pacific Islands (Fiji)</p>
<p>11:30 – 11:40</p>	<p>SADC Expansion and Utilisation of the SOLTRAIN+ Project: Building Technical Capacity Across SADC Member States Selma Festus, SACREEE (Namibia)</p>
<p>11:40 – 11:50</p>	<p>Solar-PV and Battery Energy Storage Powered Living Lab Satellite Hubs for Entrepreneurship Education to Underserved Communities Antti Pinomaa, LUT University (Finland)</p>
<p>11:50 – 12:00</p>	<p>Designing an Impact Framework to Enhance GESI Outcomes in Rural Nepal: Lessons from Solar-Powered Swappable Battery Pilots for EV Rickshaws and Home Energy Systems David Tetlow, P.A.K Engineering Ltd (United Kingdom)</p>
<p>12:00 – 12:15</p>	<p>Discussion</p>
<p>12:15 – 12:25</p>	<p>Key challenges of Productive Use of Energy (PUE) in mini-grids in Sierra Leone Dr. Carsten Hellpap, Salone Consult (Sierra Leone)</p>
<p>12:25 – 12:35</p>	<p>Agrivoltaics in Namibia and The Gambia: First impressions from smallholder farmers Jessica Berneiser, Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE (Germany)</p>
<p>12:35 – 12:45</p>	<p>Enhancing Kenyan Fisheries: Off-Grid Solar Cooling for Sustainable Livelihoods Liya Betsy Thomas, Efficiency for Access / Energy Saving Trust (United Kingdom)</p>
<p>12:45 – 13:00</p>	<p>Discussion</p>
<p>13:00 – 14:00</p>	<p align="center">LUNCH, NETWORKING AND VISIT TO INDUSTRY AND POSTER EXHIBITION</p> <p align="center"> EXHIBITION AREA – ES MERCAT</p>

SESSION 5: PRACTITIONERS ROUND TABLES  DIFFERENT ROOMS (Refer to conference Info Desk) Chair: Dan Zimmerle, Colorado State University (USA)	
14:00 – 15:00	1. Topic: <i>Productive Use – Opportunities and Challenges of Different Business Models</i> Moderator: Carsten Hellpap, Energy Consultant (Germany) Rapporteur: Stefan Trittler, Asantys Systems GmbH (Germany)
	2. Topic: <i>How can holistic design and sustainable architecture enhance thermal comfort and clean cooking interventions?</i> Moderator: Florencia Azar Sales, Energy Saving Trust / Efficiency for Access (United Kingdom) Rapporteur: Dr. Peter Lilienthal, EarthSpark International (USA)
	3. Topic: <i>Modeling vs. Informed Guessing for mini grid demand estimates</i> Moderator: Andre E. Susanto, Inovasi Dinamika Pratama (Indonesia) Rapporteur: Ayu Adbullah, Community Energy Toolkit – COMET (Malaysia)
	4. Topic: <i>How can e-mobility contribute to energy access projects?</i> Moderator: Roger Sallent, TTA (Spain) Rapporteur: Philipp Blechinger, Reiner Lemoine Institut - RLI (Germany)
	5. Topic: <i>Designing Sustainable Capacity Building in Technical Assistance Programmes</i> Moderator: Robbert Hoeboer and Nicolás Larrañaga Lapique, Sustainable Energy for All – SEforALL (Austria) Rapporteur: Samson Mhlanga, National University of Science and Technology (Zimbabwe) and Helvi Iлека, NUST - Namibia Energy Institute (Namibia)
	6. Topic: Optional requested by participants during registration on site. Moderator: TBC Rapporteur: TBC

SESSION 6 – PLENARY: SPOTLIGHT ON LESSONS LEARNED  SALA D'ACTES Chairs: Fábio Luis Franca de Faria, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina (Brazil) Jessica Berneiser, Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE (Germany)	
15:00 – 16:20	
15:00 – 15:05	Opening Brief
15:05 – 15:20	Productive Use of Renewable Energy (PURE) field experience from real projects Stefan Trittler, Asantys Systems GmbH (Germany)
15:20 – 15:35	On the importance of holistic approaches to address challenges for viable off-grid solar mini-grids in sub-Saharan Africa Erik O. Ahlgren, Chalmers University of Technology (Sweden)
15:35 – 15:50	SURINAME - Engineering, Procurement, and Construction of 10 PV-Diesel Hybrid mini-grids in the Upper Suriname River Richard Paal, EnergieBedrijven Suriname – EBS (Suriname)
15:50 – 16:05	Lighting the Path: Towards an Inclusive PUE Ecosystem in Africa Chianda Njogu, Global Energy Alliance for People & Planet – GEAPP (Kenya)
16:05 – 16:20	Discussion

16:20 – 17:05	COFFEE BREAK AND VISIT TO INDUSTRY AND POSTER EXHIBITION Posters Session 2C  EXHIBITION AREA – ES MERCAT
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17:05 – 18:45	<p align="center">SESSION 7A – PARALLEL: TECHNICAL INNOVATIONS</p> <p align="center"> SALA D'ACTES</p> <p align="center">Chairs: Andreu, Moià-Pol, Universitat de les Illes Balears – UIB (Spain) Celestino Ruivo, ISE, University of Algarve, ADAI (Portugal)</p>
17:05 – 17:10	Opening Brief
17:10 – 17:20	<p>Enhancing solar cooking with an oil/rock bed heat storage system for sustainable energy access in Namibia Cecilia N. Naule, University of Namibia, (Namibia)</p>
17:20 – 17:30	<p>Low-power, low-cost, intelligent electric cooking for weak grids and battery systems Javier Juárez Montojo, SUNUS-ENERGY (Spain)</p>
17:30 – 17:40	<p>Experimental Performance Comparison of Flat Plate and Evacuated Tube Solar Thermal Collectors for Indirect Cooking in Mozambique Tomás Manuel Nhabetse, Universidade Save (Mozambique)</p>
17:40 – 17:50	<p>Low cost Heat Pump for cooling and desalination Andreu Moià-Pol, Universitat de les Illes Balears – UIB (Spain)</p>
17:50 – 18:00	Discussion
18:00 – 18:10	<p>Agri-PV for Semi-Arid Tunisia: Hybrid Control Strategies and Design Optimisation for Energy Reliability and Agricultural Co-Benefits Rushabh Jain, Institute of new Energy Systems, Technische Hochschule Ingolstadt – THI (Germany)</p>
18:10 – 18:20	<p>Transportable Battery Energy Storage Systems as Resilient and Sustainable Energy Access Facilitators in Emergency Situations Daniel Odilio dos Santos, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina – UFSC (Brazil)</p>
18:20 – 18:30	<p>Thermally Cooled, Locally Assembled Swappable Battery Systems for EV Rickshaw and Home Energy Access in Rural Nepal: The GANESHA Project David Tetlow, P.A.K Engineering Ltd (United Kingdom)</p>
18:30 – 18:40	<p>Design of a Mopane Solar Drying System-Offshoots of SOLTRAIN Project Samson Mhlanga, National University of Science and Technology (Zimbabwe)</p>
18:40 – 18:45	Discussion

<p>17:05 – 18:45</p>	<p align="center">SESSION 7B - PARALLEL SESSION: DEMAND ASSESSMENT AND OPTIMIZATION</p> <p align="center"> AB03</p> <p align="center">Chairs:</p> <p align="center">Peter Lilienthal, University of Colorado (USA) Helvi Ileka, NUST - Namibia Energy Institute (Namibia)</p>
<p>17:05 – 17:10</p>	<p><i>Opening Brief</i></p>
<p>17:10 – 17:20</p>	<p>Future-proofing decentralized energy systems: Behavioural insights for microgrid design in rural Africa Mohammad Amin Tahavori, VITO (Belgium)</p>
<p>17:20 – 17:30</p>	<p>Data-Driven Model to Estimate Dynamic Energy Demand in Rural Mini-Grids: A Case Study from Kenya Leticia Tomas Fillol, School of Energy Systems (Finland)</p>
<p>17:30 – 17:40</p>	<p>Validating Participatory Load Profiling: A Comparative Study of COMET Simulation vs. Smart Meter Consumption Data Mirko Sowa, Community Energy Toolkit – COMET (Malaysia)</p>
<p>17:40 – 17:50</p>	<p>Open-Source Mini-Grid Modelling Tools: Overview and Comparative Analysis Alessandro Onori, Politecnico di Milano (Italy)</p>
<p>17:50 – 18:00</p>	<p>Discussion</p>
<p>18:00 – 18:10</p>	<p>Cost-Benefit Analysis of Solar-Assisted Heat Pump Hybrid Systems in South Africa Lavhelesani Maluleke, Centre of Renewable and Sustainable Energy Studies (South Africa)</p>
<p>18:10 – 18:20</p>	<p>Second-Life Li-Ion Batteries in Remote Amazonian Communities: A Feasibility Study Fábio Luis França de Faria, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina – UFSC (Brazil)</p>
<p>18:20 – 18:30</p>	<p>Modeling Household Energy Behavior in the Context of Solar Home System Electrification: A Case Study in Raqaypampa, Bolivia Claudia Sanchez-Solis, Université de Liège (Belgium)</p>
<p>18:30 – 18:45</p>	<p>Discussion</p>

17:05 – 18:45	<p>SESSION 7C - PARALLEL SESSION: FROM MARKET PLANNING TO BUSINESS MODELS</p> <p> SALA DE GRAUS B</p> <p>Chairs: Carsten Hellpap, Energy Consultant (Germany) Geoff Stapleton, Sustainable Energy Industry Association of Pacific Islands SEIAPI (Australia)</p>
17:05 – 17:10	Opening Brief
17:10 – 17:20	<p>Agriculture Cold Chain Access Planning Tool – AgCAP: The Madagascar pilot application</p> <p>Robbert Hoeboer, Sustainable Energy for All – SEforALL (Austria)</p>
17:20 – 17:30	<p>Beyond Metrics: Navigating the Complexity of Outcomes and Planning for Sustainability of Gender and Diversity in SOLTRAIN+</p> <p>Karen Gibson, SACREEE (Botswana)</p>
17:30 – 17:40	<p>Is Solar Cooling a Viable Solution for Agricultural Value Chains? Challenges and Findings from a Field Study in Kenya</p> <p>Florian Martini, Phaesun GmbH (Germany)</p>
17:40 – 17:50	<p>Powering Agri-Food Systems with Off-Grid Solar Powered Technologies</p> <p>Carlos Sordo, GOGLA (Netherlands)</p>
17:50 – 18:00	Discussion
18:00 – 18:10	<p>The Role of Partnerships in the Scaling of Energy Access Companies</p> <p>Dr Ruth Massey, African Climate and Development Initiative (South Africa)</p>
18:10 – 18:20	<p>Beyond Access: Applying the capabilities approach to electricity access measurement: Insights from three case studies in rural Senegal</p> <p>Ange Nkonko Kibelo Martin's, University of Lausanne (Switzerland)</p>
18:20 – 18:30	<p>Energy Access Explorer World's First Digital Public Good for Climate Compatible Energy Transitions</p> <p>Dr. Dimitris Mentis, Energy Access Explorer (Greece)</p>
18:30 – 18:40	<p>Integrating Climate Resilience into Island Energy System Planning: Insights from Cuba and Southeast Asia</p> <p>Dr. Katrin Lammers, Reiner Lemoine Institut – RLI (Germany)</p>
18:40 – 18:45	Discussion

20:30	<p>CONFERENCE DINNER WITH POSTER AWARD</p> <p> MELIÁ PALMA MARINA</p> <p>Jatin Nathwani, WISE - University of Waterloo (Canada) Helvi Ileka, NUST - Namibia Energy Institute (Namibia)</p>
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FRIDAY, APRIL 10

09:00 – 10:35	<p align="center">SESSION 8 – PLENARY: OPERATION ASPECTS</p> <p align="center"> SALA D'ACTES</p> <p align="center">Chairs: Alexandra Arias Comisión de Integración Energética Regional (CIER), Latin America & Caribbean Xavier Vallvé, Trama TecnoAmbiental – TTA (Spain)</p>
09.00 – 09:05	Opening Brief
09.05 – 09:20	A socio-technical analysis of hybrid mini-grid performance in rural Benin: linking customer archetypes, load profiles, and outage dynamics Scherif Sossou, University of Liège (Belgium)
09.20 – 09:35	MicroPowerManager - Digitalization of DRE Companies with Open Source Tooling Daniel Mohns, EnAccess (Netherlands)
09.35 – 09:50	Long-term Operation Success Factors of Non-Floating Offshore Solar Mini-Grids for Fishing Villages Andre E. Susanto, Inovasi Dinamika Pratama (Indonesia)
09.50 – 10:05	The Direct Relief “Power for Health” Model: Deploying Solar + Battery Microgrids to Strengthen Health Institutions & Social Well-Being in Underserved Communities Emilie Elzein, Direct Relief (USA)
10.05 – 10:20	Microgrids for Communities in Emerging Economies: Modelling Practices and Users for Sustainable Implementations Marko Nieminen, Aalto University (Finland)
10.20 – 10:35	Discussion

10.35 – 10:45	<p>ROUND TABLES CONCLUSIONS</p> <p> SALA D'ACTES Daniel Zimmerle, Colorado State University, USA</p>
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10.45 – 11:30	<p>COFFEE BREAK</p> <p>VISIT TO INDUSTRY AND POSTER EXHIBITION</p> <p>SOLAR COOKING CHEFS KNIGHTING AND INDUCTION Xavier Vallvé, TTA (Spain)</p> <p> EXHIBITION AREA – ES MERCAT</p>
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<p>11:30 – 13:00</p>	<p align="center">SESSION 9A – PLENARY: PROJECT SHOWCASES</p> <p align="center"> SALA D'ACTES</p> <p align="center">Chairs: Werner Weiss, AEE-INTEC - Institute for Sustainable Technologies (Austria) Jatin Nathwani, WISE - University of Waterloo (Canada)</p>
<p>11:30 – 11:35</p>	<p>Opening Brief</p>
<p>11:35 – 11:50</p>	<p>Off-Grid Solar Energy for Healthcare and Education Infrastructure in Burundi: Scaling Public Services Through Renewable Energy Mohamed Ali Kechrid, Solar23 GmbH (Germany)</p>
<p>11:50 – 12:05</p>	<p>Importance of Energy Storage far from the mainland: Isla Meanguera (El Salvador) Mikel Valderrama Larrinaga, CEGASA Energia S.L.U. (Spain)</p>
<p>12:05 – 12:20</p>	<p>Advancing Energy Access in Belize: Progress, Lessons, and Ongoing Initiatives Karique Marin, Belize Electricity Limited (Belize)</p>
<p>12:20 – 12:35</p>	<p>Solar Energy Systems Installation in Closed Areas of Hebron: Strengthening Resilience and Economic Independence through PV Solutions Hazem Natsheh, Hebron Electric Power Company – HEPCO (Palestine)</p>
<p>12:35 – 12:50</p>	<p>Pacific Green Transformation (GX) Project: Accelerating Renewable Energy Access and Inclusive Decarbonization Pathways in the Pacific Islands Irina Lazzarini, UNDP (Pacific Islands)</p>
<p>12:50 – 13:00</p>	<p>Discussion</p>

<p>11:30 – 13:00</p>	<p align="center">SESSION 9B - PARALLEL SESSION: SOLAR COOKING EVENT</p> <p align="center"> AB02</p> <p align="center">Chefs: Manuel Vilchez, IPCENA (Spain) Celestino Ruivo, University of Algarve, (Portugal) Richard Sieff, MECS, (UK)</p> <hr/> <p><i>Cooking with the Experts: Interactive Clean-Cooking Technologies</i> <i>(Parallel Demonstration Session)</i></p> <p><i>This interactive live cooking demonstration runs in parallel with Session 9A (Plenary). It is not a formal presentation session, but an opportunity to observe clean-cooking technologies in real time, engage directly with practitioners, and ask questions as the cooking takes place.</i></p> <p><i>Experts will demonstrate solar and off-grid cooking solutions, including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Parabolic Solar Cookers</i> – High-temperature solar cooking • <i>Solar Box Ovens</i> – Low-temperature solar baking • <i>Electric Pressure Cookers with Off-Grid PV Power</i> – Efficient electric cooking using standalone solar systems <p><i>Participants are welcome to drop in at any time to see the technologies in action and interact informally with the experts. The food prepared during the session will be served at the Solar Lunch following the plenary closing remarks.</i></p>
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13:00 – 13:15	<p>PLENARY CLOSING REMARKS</p> <p> SALA D'ACTES</p> <p>Werner Weiss, AEE-INTEC - Institute for Sustainable Technologies (Austria)</p> <p>Xavier Vallvé, TTA - Trama TecnoAmbiental (Spain)</p> <p>END OF THE CONFERENCE</p>
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13:15 – 14:30	<p>SOLAR LUNCH WITH FOOD COOKED DURING SESSION 9B</p> <p><i>Solar lunch sponsored by ESMAP - The World Bank Group</i></p> <p> EXHIBITION AREA – ES MERCAT</p>
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SIDE EVENT 3

Mini-grid Workshop - *Exact title TBC*

When: Friday April 10, 14:30 - 16:30

Hosted By: ESMAP - The World Bank Group

Where: AB01



During this session the World Bank team plan to conduct an interactive mini-grid workshop based on their portfolio of initiatives. Following the presentation, the team will host a brainstorming session with the audience on the best practices, initiatives, products and microfinance options that exist across the globe to target mini grid customers.