

WISIONS Webinar Series

Stronger together: Why networks of energy access practitioners matter?

Moderator: Molly Hurley Depret

Panelists:

- Dipti Vaghela
- Mariela Pino
- Jem Porcaro
- Willington Ortiz

What is WISIONS initiative about?

www.wisions.net



- WISIONS **started in 2004** promoting sustainable energy solutions in developing regions (with support from “Stiftung ProEvolution”)
- Main objective of WISIONS is to **make clean energy a default solution for basic energy needs in developing regions,**
 - **Strengthening local capacities:** helping local practitioners to identify successes and bring them to scale through regional networks, marketing and demonstration.
 - **Need-oriented:** Energy as a mean for empowering population to build and maintain livelihoods.

Wuppertal Institute Supervision

Coordination - Strategic reflection

Knowledge Sharing

Dissemination & Advocacy



wisions.net
Blog & NL



Brochures
Factsheet



Scien. papers
& conf.

Webinars



Supporting Tools & Grants

SEPS - Sustainable Energy Project Support

*Exchanging
experience &
practical
learning*



110

**Sustainable energy
projects and exchanges
(SEPS)** supported since
2004 in over **40** countries



4

**Energy Practitioner
Networks**
with more than **150**
participating organisations

Practitioner Networks' Support

Research

*delivery models;
outcomes/impacts*

Contribution to
Sust. Dev.

Post-Evaluations

Understanding
transformation



ENERGY ACCESS
**PRACTITIONER
NETWORK**



Stronger Together: Why Networks of Energy Access Practitioners Matter

Jem Porcaro
Senior Director, Energy Access
United Nations Foundation

January 18, 2018

www.unfoundation.org
www.energyaccess.org

Energy Access Practitioner Network



Building a Thriving Global Distributed Energy Access Sector

Background

- **Energy underpins nearly every aspect of our economies and societies.** Yet over 1 billion people around the world still live without electricity and the benefits it provides.
- **The business-as-usual approach to energy delivery – extending the central grid – is proving inadequate** and far too slow to end energy poverty in our lifetimes.
- **Distributed energy has the potential to revolutionize access to energy.** Thanks to the declining cost of renewable energy and the emergence of innovative business and financing models, a growing number of enterprises are delivering distributed energy as a low-cost and practical complement – and, at times, alternative – to traditional, grid-tied electricity. These ‘energy access practitioners’ are on the front lines of an effort to deliver cleaner, more reliable, and affordable energy solutions to the most remote, underserved, and marginalized communities around the world.
- While this sector shows promising signs of development, some challenges that need to be resolved to mature the sector and enable it to reach scale include: **needless reinventing of the wheel, unmade linkages, inability to leverage experience and learn from each other, and lack of awareness of the global energy access challenge.**

Energy Access Practitioner Network

Building a Thriving Global Distributed Energy Access Sector



About the Network

- Established in 2011, the Energy Access Practitioner Network is an initiative of the United Nations Foundation that supports the development of a thriving global distributed energy sector to catalyze the achievement of universal energy access.

Our Goals

- Unify the sector:** Serve as a unifying platform that connects diverse stakeholders in the distributed energy sector to reduce silos, foster peer-to-peer learning, and help forge new partnerships, strategic linkages, and avenues of collaboration.
- Accelerate learning:** Help enterprises and entrepreneurs – particularly newcomers to the sector – move up the learning curve more rapidly, thereby accelerating the development of the sector.
- Elevate distributed energy on the global agenda:** Increase awareness of and priority given to distributed energy – and its role in addressing energy poverty and achieving SDG 7 – through thought leadership, collating evidence, and amplifying the voice of local practitioners in high-level decision-making. This includes serving as a two-way conduit for engagement and coordination between practitioners, the UN, and Sustainable Energy for All.

Our Partners



Country Affiliates



Supporting Partners



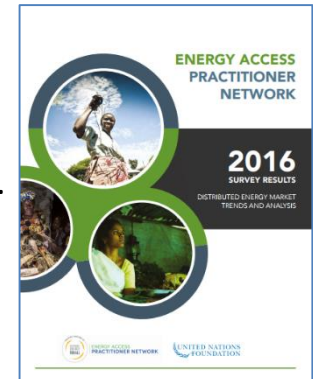
Energy Access Practitioner Network



Building a Thriving Global Distributed Energy Access Sector

How We Work

- **Creating market intelligence** by conducting regular market surveys and contributing to a range of other studies focused on distributed energy.
- **Convening the sector**, offering opportunities for peer-to-peer learning, and match-making. We do this by hosting high-level events, training workshops, and networking events.
- **Curating knowledge** about overcoming key barriers and promoting successful energy delivery models. We do this by holding regular industry training webinars, and using our website as a clearinghouse for best practices and data.
- **Communicating** up-to-date and relevant news, resources and opportunities regarding industry, financing and policy developments. We do this through various communication channels, including our website, newsletters, and social media.
- **Promoting** the distributed energy access sector and its role within broader electrification efforts. We do this by leveraging the UN Foundation's convening power as a neutral, trusted space to help advance ideas, collaboration, and partnerships – especially between industry and investors.



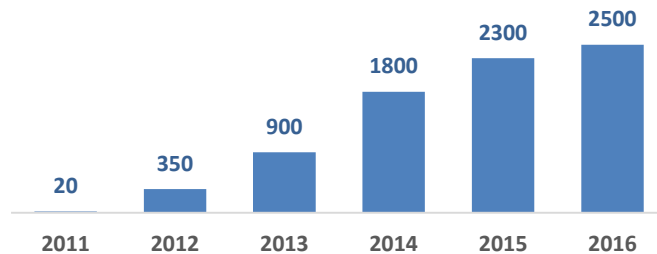
Energy Access Practitioner Network



Building a Thriving Global Distributed Energy Access Sector

Who We Represent and Service

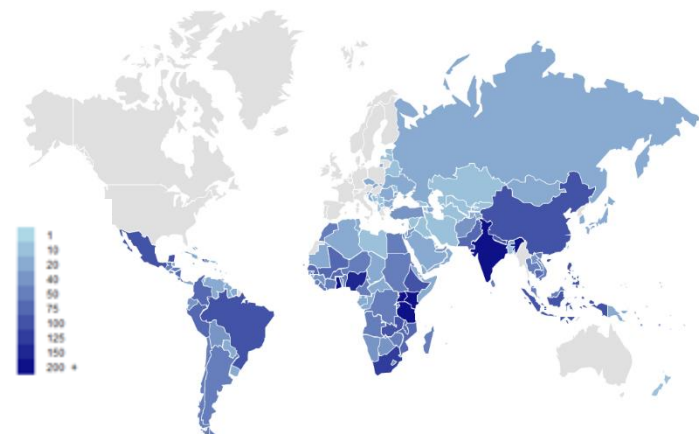
Membership by Year



Type of Members



Distribution of Members' Geographic Presence



Energy Access Practitioner Network



Building a Thriving Global Distributed Energy Access Sector

Our Reach

Recognized for brokering industry-to-investor transactions through networking events and tools such as the Investment Directory, which showcases

over \$1.8 billion

of potential investment opportunities in the energy access sector

Monthly newsletters, reaching over

7,000

recipients per month



In 2015, a sample of Energy Access Practitioner Network members collectively sold or installed **6 million** distributed energy products, providing over

30 million

individuals with energy access — up from **3.6 million** households in 2012

30 events and workshops around the world, bringing together close to

2,000 people



An early supporter of **Sustainable Energy for All**, serving as its main conduit to industry and civil society input on energy access issues



40 webinars to date, reaching over **6,000** participants since 2013

Energy Access Practitioner Network

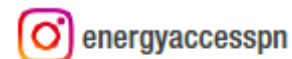
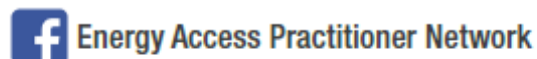
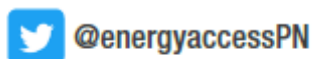


Building a Thriving Global Distributed
Energy Access Sector



To join the Practitioner Network: Visit our website to fill out our membership registration form.

For questions: Please contact us by email at info@energyaccess.org



www.energyaccess.org

HYDRO EMPOWERMENT NETWORK



WISIONS Webinar

Stronger Together: Why Networks of Energy Practitioners Matter



Dipti Vaghela
Network Coordinator
January 2018

OUR MEMBERS



HOW WE WORK

ON-LINE DATABASE OF RESOURCES

BASE-LINE STUDIES, ACTION RESEARCH



FACTSHEETS, WEBINARS,
STRATEGIES FOR IMPACT,
MULTI-STAKEHOLDER COORDINATION

PRACTICE-TO-POLICY EXCHANGES,
BIENNIAL GATHERINGS, SITE VISITS,
TECHNICAL TRAININGS

ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES





skat Swiss Resource Centre and
Consultancies for Development



HYDRO EMPOWERMENT NETWORK
www.hpnet.org

Vision

To be the reference organization in the research, development, implementation and dissemination of biodigesters to stimulate the proper management of natural resources and to promote the socio-economic well-being of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Our Mission

To be a network that brings together institutions related to applied research and the diffusion of anaerobic biodigestion to stimulate integral treatment and management of organic waste as strategies to improve the well-being of the population of Latin America and the Caribbean.

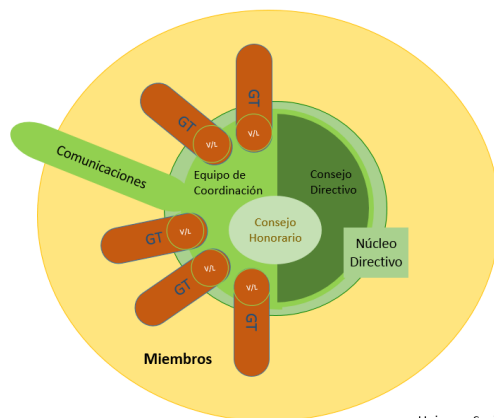
Our strategic areas of work:

- Research, development and knowledge exchange
- Education
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Communication
- Advocacy
- Public policies

Our values:

Environmental awareness
Social justice
Knowledge exchange
Collaboration and team work
Innovation
Accountability





Universo Social



Núcleo directivo 2018



Objectives

- Exchange information and experiences among institutions participating in RedBioLAC
- Identify and overcome technical, environmental, social and economic barriers
- Propose projects, mechanisms and ideas to disseminate biodigester technology in LAC
- Generate alliances that facilitate the adoption of biodigester technology
- Systematize research and dissemination among partners (Health, financing, policy, education, industrialization and marketing).
- Promote the incorporation of other organizations, institutions and researchers in the field of biodigesters.
- Encourage actions of influence and incidence of policies related to biodigesters.

Achievements

- Almost a decade bridging diverse institutions, organizations and people
- The only Latin American biogas network on domestic and productive scales, bringing together diversity of practitioners
- A virtual platform, including library, webinars, videos
- Annual events in different countries every year
- We bring together technical knowledge and experienced people
- Edition of a magazine and publications to showcase relevant issues
- A network which creates linkages between students and organizations
- Working groups collaborating to reach common objectives

Challenges

- To contribute to disseminate the technology
- To maintain momentum through remote collaboration
- To measure impact
- To keep all sub regions active
- To cover all topics (including those not properly explored yet)



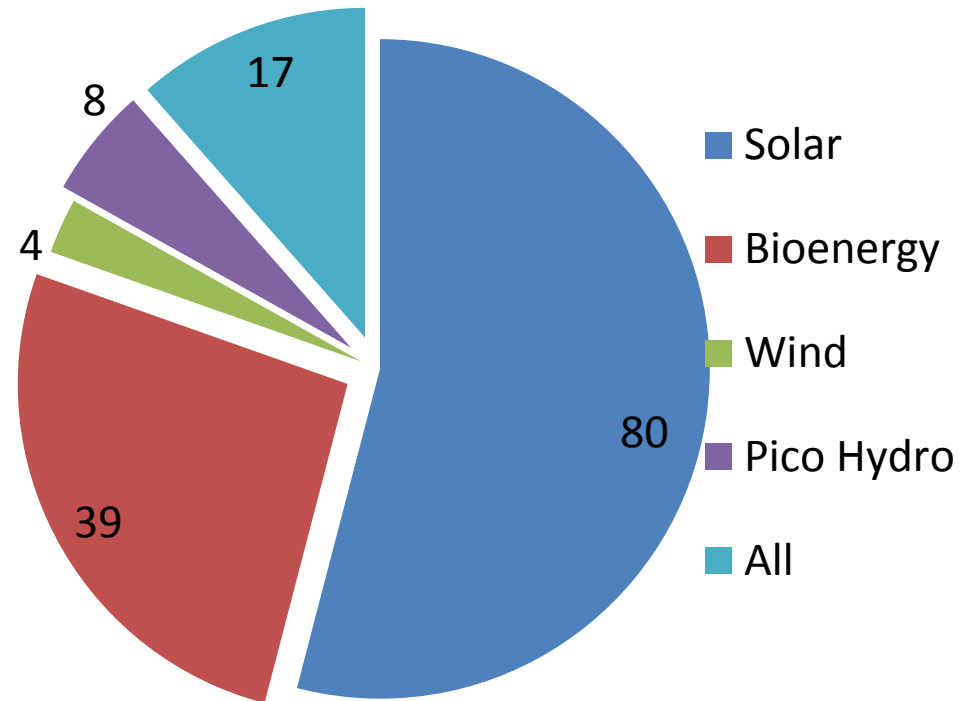
Energy off the
Grid and of
the People



Clean energy can address the needs of 33% of Indians living without energy access.

GENESIS, VISION & MISSION

MEMBERSHIP BASED TECHNOLOGY AGNOSTIC NETWORK Launched in 2014 as to meet the common needs of DRE practitioners. **CLEAN** has 115 members representing various technology



Policy Engagement

- Advocate pro DRE policies
- Foster strong ties with policy makers
- Represent collective voice

Information and Networking

- Networking events and workshops
- Foster strong ties with policy makers
- Represent collective voice

Access to Finance

- Facilitation of enterprise and end user financing
- Platform for interaction among bankers and practitioner

Technology

- Technology linkages for DRE
- Standards and Certification

Skills and Training

- Capacity Building for the sector
- Mapping training needs
- Strengthening the skilling ecosystem

A few Accomplishments

- Ecosystem building: Recognition to DRE among policymakers (important Policies such as National mini grid policy, NEP, GST), driving a change in policy narrative for energy access in India's evolving electricity system
- Launch of the State of the Sector report (2016-2017) and study of the Debt financing to DRE
- DREEM (DRE Evaluation & Monitoring) tool for DRE
- Tech innovations and solutions initiated for last mile energy delivery and efficiency
- Flagship networking/policy events- India Clean Cooking Forum, India Energy Access Summit (Y-O-Y)
- Skill training on Solar tech, mini grid tech, pico-hydro-Techno – entrepreneurial training etc
- Tech innovations, pilot project, Info Exchange, Quarterly CLEAN Digest, weekly mailer, Member Directory etc

Resource Partners



Founding Members & Advisory Group of CLEAN



www.thecleannetwork.org

Live notes

What would you do different if you would have the possibility to establish the network again now?

- Some original rationalities have changed over the years... e.g.
- The sector is becoming specialised
- Trying to facilitate country-level network activities
- Central gravity moving from 'Global arenas' towards more local/sector specific levels
- **Country and sector specific activities**



Networking workshop micro-hydro practitioners S/SE Asia, Sri Lanka 2011



Excursion to local micro-hydro turbines manufacturer. HPNet Gathering, Indonesia 2015

Live notes

What is the role of local associations/practitioners

- They are key for developing **customized solutions** for local situations/conditions
- **Collaborative approaches** more effective to advance... for instance policy making supporting grid connection of micro-hydro projects in Nepal & Sri Lanka

Example impact on productive uses of energy (biogas)

- “Productive biogas”: is the sector in between ‘only for cooking’ and ‘industrial agriculture’. E.g: warm water for processing
- Improving the environmental features of single farms

RedBioLAC is facilitating the exchange of experiences, both best and ‘bad’ lessons.

Transparent information -> Avoid Frustrations!



Installing a tubular biodigester. Inception meeting of the RedBioLAC, Costa Rica 2010



Advanced course on biodigestion technologies. RedBioLAC conference, Costa Rica 2016

Live notes

Challenges in Finance / changes

- Understanding the business models for decentralized energy solutions.
- Scarcity of credit lines and policies specific for the sector
- Financial literacy courses for entrepreneurs.
- Linkages/Interactions with micro-finance actors
- **Changing the mind-set of the bank sector**



Panel discussion on the role of energy practitioners and networks in climate action. COP23 Bonn, 2017



Workshop on coordination of energy practitioners networks. Wuppertal/Germany, 2017

Live notes

Goal for 2018

- (Energy Access Practitioners Network) **Refine activities for meeting the need of the members**
- (HPNet)
 - **Mobilize resources for supporting members better!**
- (RedBioLAC)
 - Keep attending the demand of the members. Develop the tools needed for that
 - **Move towards policy making and advocacy**
- (CLEAN)
 - Developing internal governance system/strategic planning of the network
 - Proactive in policy advice
- (WISIONS)
 - **Foster mobilization of knowledge** based on practical experiences among practitioners and other key stakeholders



Participants to Wind Empowerment Conference in Athens 2014



Group work sessions during the Wind Empowerment Conference in Patagonia 2016