

**Commercially Operating Mini-Grid Systems Conference  
U.S. Department of State, USAID, World Bank, UN Foundation  
October 16, 2014**

**Agenda**

*Location: World Bank, 1818 H Street NW, room MC C2-131*

8:00 am – 9:00 am: Registration & Breakfast

9:00 am – 9:10 am: Workshop Kick-Off and Welcome  
Mr. S. Vijay Iyer, World Bank

9:10 am – 9:20 am: Framing Energy Access and the Need for Scale-up of Mini-grid systems  
Mr. Charles North, U.S. Agency for International Development

9:20 am – 9:30 am SE4ALL and the Importance of Mini-grid Deployment for the Initiative  
Dr. Robert Ichord, U.S. Department of State

9:30 am – 10:50 am: Panel 1: Business Models for Commercially Viable Mini-grids  
Moderator: Ms. Christine Eibs-Singer, UN Sustainable Energy for All  
Panelists: Mr. Didar Islam, Solaric  
Mr. Fabio De Pascale, Devergy  
Mr. Chris Hornor, Powerhive  
Mr. Nikhil Jaisinghani, Mera Gao Power

10:50 am – 11:00 am: Coffee & Tea Break

11:00 am – 11:10 am: DFID/ESMAP/AfDB Mini-grid Facility  
Mr. Steven Hunt, Department for International Development

11:10 am – 11:20 am: Renewable Energy Mini-Grids and Distributed Power Generation Program  
Mr. Samuel Tumiwa, Asian Development Bank

11:20 am – 12:40 pm: Panel 2: Financing for Commercially Viable Mini-grids  
Moderator: Ms. Niki Armacost, Arc Finance  
Panelists: Dr. Pepukaye Bardouille, International Finance Corporation  
Mr. Chris Aidun, Persistent Energy Partners  
Mr. Jonathan Kirschner, U.S. Agency for International Development  
Ms. Brinda Ganguly, Rockefeller Foundation

12:40 pm – 1:40 pm: Lunch & Networking

- 1:40 pm – 1:50 pm Quality Assurance Framework for Mini-grids  
Ms. Caroline McGregor, U.S. Department of Energy
- 1:50 pm – 3:10 pm: Panel 3: Emerging Technologies and Strategies for Scaling up Mini-grids  
Moderator: Dr. Johannes Linn, Brookings Institution  
Panelists: Mr. Unai Arrieta, Trama TecnoAmbiental  
Ms. Allison Archambault, EarthSpark International  
Dr. Vijay Modi, Columbia University Earth Institute  
Mr. Piyush Mathur, Simpa Networks
- 3:10 pm – 3:20 pm: Coffee & Tea Break
- 3:20 pm – 3:30 pm: Mini-grids HIO Development & Practitioner Network  
Ms. Richenda Van Leeuwen, United Nations Foundation
- 3:30 pm – 4:50 pm: Panel 4: Regulatory Frameworks and Policy for Mini-grids  
Moderator: Dr. Bernard Tenenbaum, Independent Energy Consultant  
Panelists: Mr. Mayank Bhargava, NextGen Solar  
Mr. Alakesh Chetia, Sun Edison  
Mr. Yashraj Khaitan, Gram Power  
Mr. Mike Gratwicke, Rift Valley Energy
- 4:50 pm – 5:00 pm: Closing Remarks: Mr. Rohit Khanna, ESMAP, World Bank
- 5:20 pm – 7:00 pm: Evening Reception & One-on-One with Practitioners & Companies  
Sponsored by the United Nations Foundation and U.S. Department of State  
*Location: United Nations Foundation, 1750 Pennsylvania NW, 12<sup>th</sup> floor*