



Editorial

Guido Glania
Secretary General

IEA/UNDP/UNIDO: Dull energy outlook for the poor is shameful and unacceptable

The International Energy Agency and UN organizations are not known for their emotional language. However, in the new special report on energy poverty, these organizations find strong words to describe the current situation and prospects for the poor.

IEA, UNDP and UNIDO released the report “Energy Poverty – How to make modern energy access universal” on 22 September in New York at the occasion of the MDG Summit. It underpins the need for a dramatic acceleration of rural electrification. If present policies remain unchanged, it foresees that the number of people in Sub Saharan Africa without electricity will rise from 585 to 652 million until 2030. 67 million more people without access to electricity in the next 20 years? This outlook is shameful and unacceptable. ARE could not agree more. The prospects look better in India and the rest of developing Asia. But even in this high growth region more than 500 million people will suffer from lack to energy access in the 2030 scenario.

We are glad that IEA/UNDP and UNIDO recognize the potential of off-grid solutions and renewable energy. According to the report universal access by 2030 would require 380 TWh of grid electricity, 400 for mini-grids and 172 for off-grid. It clearly states that the Millennium Development Goals cannot be achieved unless substantial progress is made on improving energy access. It also calculates that only 3 % of the overall investment projected for the energy sector worldwide would be needed to achieve universal access by 2030. Against this background the report calls for a new financial, institutional and technological framework.

We were pleased that the Alliance for Rural Electrification was able to support IEA/UNDP and UNIDO to write this report and we will do our best to spread its core messages.

You can access the document online, for everyone interested in rural electrification, this report is a must read!

http://www.worldenergyoutlook.org/docs/weo2010/weo2010_poverty.pdf



News from the Alliance

NEW MEMBERS IN THE ALLIANCE FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION:

ADES is a Spanish research and development engineering firm, which aims to develop solutions that encourage the rational and efficient use of renewable energy in the world, providing innovative solutions to specific problems. ADES is currently developing projects in Latin America and wants to increase its activities in the off-grid market. As friends of the Alliance for a long time, they have decided to join the off-grid family.

ENEL Green Power founded in December 2008, is dedicated to developing and managing energy generation from renewable sources at an international level, with a presence in Europe and the American continent. The company objective is to develop technology mix following the renewables potential of each country. Enel green power is a national leader in the production of photovoltaic systems to households and businesses with over 100 MW installed, has a network of franchisees with over 500 qualified installers present throughout the Italian territory and is also developing its activities around the globe. Hence, a membership to ARE came naturally in their development.

EUROBAT (Association of European Storage Battery Manufacturers) has 36 regular and associate member companies and represents more than 85% of the battery industry in Europe. It acts as a unified voice and reference source promoting the interests of the European automotive, industrial and special battery industries to consumers, the EU institutions and national governments. Batteries are of course a key component in off-grid renewable energy systems subject to many hopes and some controversy. EUROBAT has much to gain by integrating more the RE market through the Alliance as ARE is keen in integrating more the battery world and its concerns. EUROBAT, along with our other member from the battery sector will help ARE in this way.

FF Solar Energias Renovaveis has been present on the Portuguese renewable energy sector since 1989, offering residential standalone systems for off-grid places, mobile standalone systems, solar hot water systems, solar heating systems, grid- connected systems, water pumping systems, and etc. They work with the most reputed companies of the sector and import and distribute their products. By joining the Alliance, they want to develop their business opportunities as well as to find cooperation opportunities with ARE members. They also want to underpin that they believe in the future of rural electrification and solar cooling systems.

INES (National Institute of Solar Energy) was founded in 2006 at the initiative of public authorities to promote and develop in France the use of solar energy, especially in the service of energy conservation in buildings. INES has also developed a whole set of activities linked with off-grid renewable energy sector, in particular batteries and energy management systems. INES wants to keep a close contact with the European Industry in order to define their needs and where research can support the sector's development. Moreover, they want to stay informed about international strategies and relevant events. Therefore, they naturally chose to be part of ARE.

KAÏTO stands for practical implementation of sustainable projects in West Africa. They put into practice sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) into concrete projects and implement them. KAÏTO sells village power systems using renewable energy ("Energy Kiosk"), upon which it operates as a long term energy supplier in close coordination with the local population. Operational responsibility lies in the hands of local contractors and the Senegalese subsidiary company which was founded in 2008. As a company which targets the development of CSR activities in the off-grid renewable energy sector, KAÏTO is a natural member of the Alliance's family with which they have been collaborating for already two years. Being a member of the Alliance offers them better contacts with many members interesting for their activities in developing countries and thus more opportunities to improve their business.

If you would also like to become a member of the Alliance please [contact us](#).

RELAUNCH OF ARE WEBSITE. TAKE A LOOK AT IT!

During the past few months, the ARE team has been working on improving the corporate image of the organization through its most visible tool: its website. In Google, the ARE homepage is among the top ranked websites for "rural electrification" and the ARE homepage, with more than 3000 visitors a month, is one of the most popular internet resource for information about off-grid solutions and rural electrification.

ARE VIDEO REPORTAGE FROM SOLARPV.TV

In the context of our AGM (Annual General Assembly) and of the off-grid strategy workshop held last March, the free web TV www.solarpv.tv recorded an extensive video reportage about the Alliance for Rural Electrification and the future of rural electrification. The video reportage includes interviews of ARE members and actors from the off-grid renewable energy sector.



FIRST SOLAR ENERGY FORUM, ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (5-6 JULY 2010; MANILA, PHILIPPINES)

On May 2010, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) announced its Asia Solar Energy Initiative (ASEI) to catalyze generation of about 3,000 megawatts of solar power over the next three years. ADB plans to provide \$2.25 billion in finance to the initiative, which is expected to leverage an additional \$6.75 billion in investments from others over the same period.

The ASEI will make available a range of projects, and finance and knowledge sharing mechanisms, so as to attract other development banks, commercial banks, and the private sector to invest in these projects. In addition to direct financing, ASEI will set a target of raising \$500 million from donor countries to "buy down" the high up-front capital costs of investing in solar energy, as well as design other innovative ways to attract private-sector investment.

ASEI will also establish and, initially, host the Solar Energy Forum, an international knowledge-sharing platform that will track solar development projects, discuss new solar power proposals and incentive mechanisms, and organize major conferences.

The Forum is expected to bring together key policy makers and solar energy related professionals from nearly 30 of ADB's Member Countries with major solar energy and smart grid manufacturers, developers, suppliers, industry associations and knowledge institutes to:

- focus on addressing the key barriers to the spread of solar energy in Asia Pacific;
- create significant opportunities for private sector companies as well as knowledge institutions and development partners;
- showcase their leadership in solar energy development;
- voice their thoughts on structuring and developing solar energy projects;
- build an informed view on the potential market for solar energy in the region.

The first meeting of the First Asian Solar Forum occurred in Manila, Philippines, on the 5-6 July 2010. The meeting was considered as a great success. The Alliance for Rural Electrification through its Policy Manager Simon Rolland, carried the voice of the off grid renewable energy sector and presented the work of ARE on sustainable solutions for rural electrification.

For more information about the ADB Solar Initiative click [here](#).

If you are interested in becoming involved in this ADB initiative please contact us.

To see the presentation of Simon Rolland on "Sustainable solution for off grid rural electrification" please click [here](#).

25TH EU PVSEC/ EUROPEAN PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR ENERGY CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

The Alliance organised its traditional workshop on market opportunities which gathered the specialists of the off-grid systems within the PV family gathered in PV SEC. Once, again this event has been a real success gathering more than 50 participants in front of excellent presentations on initiative taken in the off-grid renewable energy sector all around the world!

The event was focused on the many large scale business opportunities that are appearing in developing and emerging countries (like the Indian solar mission); on the initiatives launched by international organization or development banks (the EU initiatives and the Asian solar plan); as well as on the integration of renewable energies into the parallel development of other sectors (such as Green power for mobile).

This event offered an ideal opportunity for networking and B2B meetings between the industry and project promoters.

1ST MEETING OF RESEARCH MEMBERS WORKING GROUP (13 SEPTEMBER, 2010; BRUSSELS, BELGIUM)

Research institutions that are members of the Alliance convened to discuss ways to better cooperate with each other and the private sector. The group decided to organize a mini-symposium with presentations from researchers for companies along with activities to possibly document former and on-going projects implemented by company members of the Alliance. They will also draft a paper with thematic priorities for off-grid related research.

We invite Universities and research institutes which are interested to contribute to this group to [get in touch with the ARE secretariat](#).

EUROPEAN UNION PHOTOVOLTAIC PLATFORM – WORKING GROUP 4: DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (14 SEPTEMBER, 2010; BRUSSELS, BELGIUM)

Members of this working group convened at the Renewable Energy House in Brussels on 14 September, 2010 to discuss capacity building for PV projects in developing countries.

Members listened to a presentation on capacity building by RENAC, Berlin and the development of the PV market in South Africa by Dewey and LeBeouf.

The Working Group 4 is launching a new complete new cycle of activities which looks very promising. Two angle of work have been decided: one turned towards Capacity building and training. The Alliance and the WG4 will team up with universities to study how can companies contribute more in capacity building in the access to energy sector. In parallel, the WG4 and the research working group of ARE will merge and try to combine their work, the goal being to delimit the research objectives that should be followed by the European Research Communities to support rural electrification effort from the Industry.

We encourage the people who would be interesting in participation in this program to [contact us](#).

1ST HIGH LEVEL MEETING OF THE AFRICA-EU ENERGY PARTNERSHIP (AEEP) (5 SEPTEMBER, 2010; VIENNA, AUSTRIA)

Guido Glania, Secretary General of the Alliance was part of the expert panel for the 1st high level meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership. There Mr. Glania appraised the pros and cons of performance based contracts and highlighted that the private sector plays a key role for the development of renewable energy in Africa. The High level meeting agreed on concrete targets for AEEP's future work until 2020, launched the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP) that will open new linkages in the energy-economic sector for industrial trade and business cooperation between Africa and Europe, endorsed a road map for the implementation of AEEP's future actions, and sent a clear message on energy cooperation between the two continents to the upcoming Africa-EU Summit in November 2010.

For more information, please click [here](#).



**RURAL ELECTRIFICATION'S ACTORS, RURAL
ELECTRIFICATION'S STORIES**

INTERVIEW WITH FF SOLAR

Birgit Herbers is a German entrepreneur in various areas who immigrated to Portugal in 1979. She started working with FF Solar in 1998 and since 2005 is responsible for public relations and marketing. As of 2008, she founded APESF – Portuguese PV Association and is the current General Secretary.

Could you please present shortly FF Solar especially regarding your activities/projects in developing countries?

FF Solar has been a pioneer company on PV stand alone systems since 1989 in Portugal, where we were the first company that provided PV or hybrid solutions for off-grid locations. Since then, we have considered off-grid as an important issue for developing countries.

We participated in various projects for rural electrification: in 1992 for 150 households with stand alone systems in the Odemira county district, and in 1995 for the Ourique county district, where 3 central hybrid systems generated power for 150 rural households. In 2000, we participated in an EU/NATO project in Uzbekistan, where a hybrid system serves as backup for a radio and TV antenna.

What is FF Solar's growth trajectory for the next 5 years? What are its objectives and goals in expanding your products in the off-grid market?

Our goals are the commitment to encounter new markets in developing countries, since the Portuguese grid has almost complete coverage by now. Our participation at Angola's Tectonica Fair in October 2010 indicates our great interest to expand and extend our knowledge about off-grid PV/hybrid systems to regions where these technologies are needed.

The cost of standalone systems is often presented as a major drawback for the people interested in renewable energy systems in developing countries. What would be your answer to this?

The costs are related to the energy storage in battery banks, but compared to building completely new power lines, these costs are relatively small. We consider the research and development of new battery technologies as one of the most important goals to invest in this area for governments and companies involved.

How do you ensure the maintenance of the products you sell in rural markets? Do you propose capacity building/trainings actions to your clients to answer to the O&M challenges?

Yes, we are aware of the maintenance and training issues, which is why we offer free workshops at our facilities in Portugal that cover theoretical and practical knowledge. We intend to have local partners in all Portuguese speaking countries, who can build not only a distribution network, but also take care of maintenance and repair issues.

What was your reasoning behind joining ARE and how could ARE help promote FF Solar's objectives?

We believe that networking with other colleagues and being a member of associations related to our mission and work is helpful for both sides. We want to see ARE grow and we want to grow within ARE ourselves.

[Visit FF solar website.](#)

REN21 RENEWABLES 2010 GLOBAL STATUS REPORT (GSR) OUT NOW!

The famous yearly report from REN 21 is out. In just five years, the GSR has become the most frequently referenced report on renewable energy business and policy, serving a wide range of audiences from investors and government decision makers to students, project developers, researchers, and industrial manufacturers.

The report gives readers an integrated perspective on the global renewable energy situation. It is the product of an international team of over 150 researchers, contributors, and reviewers from both industrialized and developing countries. It draws on wide-ranging information and expertise, ensuring transparency and peer-reviewed accuracy.

This year's report includes a whole chapter on rural energy in developing country and on the contribution that off-grid renewables can play in this sector.

This year's GSR appraises the size of the renewable energy off-grid market. The number of rural households served by renewable energy is difficult to estimate, but runs into the tens of millions considering all forms of renewables. Micro-hydro configured into village-scale or county-scale mini-grids serves many of these. According to the GSR more than 30 million households get lighting and cooking from biogas made in household-scale digesters. An estimated 3 million households get power from small solar PV systems.

The Alliance for rural electrification contributed as a reviewer to the GSR.

To download the GSR, please click [here](#).

To visit REN 21 website, please click [here](#).



NEWS FROM ARE MEMBERS

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION - THE GROWTH SEGMENT IN THE ENERGY SPACE

Anjali Shanker, Director General of IED and member of the Board of Directors of ARE makes the case for rural electrification being one of the growth segments in the energy space. Data shows that countries with lowest population density also have the least electrification hence the need for technology solutions such as solar PV. Africa is also experiencing rapid urbanization with some countries in Western Africa having more than 50% of their population already in urban settlements. This is putting a great deal of pressure on power utilities.

Technology options for rural electrification include:

- Energy Home systems - Mobile, versatile but not productive power.
- Mini-grids - more reliable with the inclusion of diesel generators and electronics.
- Grid extensions - Terribly expensive at the moment ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per km. Some steps can be taken to lower this cost, however it does remain prohibitively expensive.

With mini-grids, Diesel PV hybrid systems, at 50 euro cents per litre of diesel and 5,000 euro per kw installed, the payback time of the Hybrid station is 7 to 8 yrs today and given the life of PV at 15 to 20 yrs, then PV is definitely worth investing in. Life cycle costs, environment, long term cost of fossil fuels, social economic and cultural dimension and infrastructure available are other factors that need to be considered. The challenge with mini grids is the complexity of managing them. In addition, solar PV is evolving rapidly with prices projected to be at 2011 at \$2,475 and by year 2020 \$1,200/Kw. This compares very favorably with hydro power while being cognizant that PV doesn't provide the same firm power as hydro.

One challenge with developing mini-grids is that utilities more often than not, use number of connections as the key metric vs. the cost per kWh. A change in perspective would be to focus not only on connections, but also the cost per kWh. Another challenge with mini-grids is that they are based on local ownership and each has a variety of variables that make them very hard to manage. Innovation on incentives and subsidies to ensure that mini-grid owners interests are aligned with the national interests on electrification are key to ensuring success.

With a reasonable FIT, the processor could sell to the utility or sell to rural electrification. The rural electrification component is often times not as reliable a revenue stream and therefore requires grants. Rural Electrification Authority in Kenya is looking for partners cogenerate and distribute in rural areas. The key for the partners is to ensure that the rural grid component constitutes a manageable percentage of their overall revenue stream to ensure risk mitigation.

To read the full article please [click here](#).



NEWS FROM THE RURAL ELECTRIFICATION WORLD

Sri Lankan Ministry expects to reach target

The Power and Energy Ministry is set to reach its 'Electricity for All by 2012' target with solar and bio-mass power stations to be constructed in remote villages that have not been served by the national grid. Ceylon Electricity Board sources said some 4,593 rural electrification schemes will be constructed during the next two years. Power and Energy Minister Champika Ranawaka yesterday said all rural households that cannot be economically connected to the National Grid, will be provided with alternative electrical energy sources under the Ceylon Electricity Board's Rural Energy Program.

To read the full article, please click [here](#).

40% of Orissa Villages are without Electricity

Despite the efforts of the state of Orissa and the Indian central government, nearly 40% of Orissa villages are yet to be electrified. People in these villages will consider themselves fortunate if they could see a spark of electricity even at the end of this five-year plan. Recently while reviewing the progress of the village electrification programmes, Orissa Chief Minister Mr. Naveen Pattnaik expressed his concerns over the sluggish progress of the village electrification work. According to the data available in the Central electricity Authority (CEA), out of 47,529 inhabited villages, 28,871 or around 60% villages were electrified by the end of 2008-09.

To read the full article, please click [here](#).

Government of Ghana achieves 70% record in Rural Electrification

The Deputy Minister of Energy, Emmanuel Armah Kofi-Buah says the International Conference on Renewable Energy in Vienna, Austria, has given its support to Ghana's Energy Ministry to redouble efforts at its renewable energy strategy. Mr. Buah told Radio Ghana that already government has achieved 70% record in providing access to rural electrification throughout the country and is determined to become in the long term, an energy exporter. It is therefore devising further incentives for the private sector to support the provision of electricity for the rural population.

Listen to the article [here](#).

Rwanda: Nation, France to Sign 3.3 Million Euro Energy Deal

Rwanda and France will, at the end of this month, sign a deal, which will see France inject €3.3 million into RECO-RWASCO to support the national electrification programmes. The agreement is to be signed on September 28 between Finance Minister John Rwangombwa, French Ambassador Laurent Contini and the Regional Director of the French Agency for Development (AFD), Yves Terracol, will be part of the resumed economic cooperation between the two countries. According to the French Embassy in Kigali, the funds will be channeled into supporting rural electrification programmes and also increase access to electricity, as part of the commitment by the French government to support economic development in the country.

To read the full article, please click [here](#).

Brazil to Invest \$5.5 Billion in Renewable Energy Sources by 2013

The Brazilian government earlier this month held a wind, hydroelectric and biomass auction that is expected to prompt US\$ 5.52 billion in investments in renewable energies in Brazil. The resulting investments are expected to come primarily from private enterprise. The auction, which contracted power from 89 wind farms, small hydroelectric plants and biomass plants, will add an installed capacity of 2,892.2 MW to the national energy matrix.

To read the full article, please click [here](#).



NEW PUBLICATIONS ON RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

Stand-Alone Solar Electric Systems, by Mark Hankins, Published by Earth Scan

One of the best ways to get power to remote, off-grid locations, whether in developed or developing countries, is through the use of solar electric systems. This practical guide describes how to plan, design and install solar electric systems in a manner that is hands-on, graphic and technically complete. Highly illustrated chapters cover:

- solar energy basics
- components of solar electric systems (modules, batteries, regulators, inverters and appliances)
- installation practice
- details on planning and servicing systems
- water pumping
- refrigeration

- village electrification

This is the must-have guide for electric technicians and designers, development workers, and anyone who wants to install their own off-grid system.

'One watt-peak in a German grid-connected system saves the equivalent of 5 litres of oil used in a thermal power station. One watt-peak in a stand-alone system in Africa saves more than 50 litres of oil from kerosene lamps. This is the right book at the right time.'

Professor Peter Adelman, University of Applied Science, Germany, and Founder of Phocos AG

'Mark Hankins's name is synonymous with "solar" in Africa. Mark has been a solar visionary, technical expert and project engineer since 1980, providing the continent with 30 years of unparalleled expertise in the planet's only reliable and safe energy source.'

Neville Williams, Founder, Solar Electric Light Fund and Co-Founder, SELCO-India

Thanks to its good relations with Earth Scan, ARE can offer a 20% discount to all people interested in this book. For more information please contact us.

Power to the People: Investing in Clean Energy for the Base of the Pyramid in India

The World Resources Institute and the Centre for Development Finance have recently published a report to inform investors about the market potential of the clean energy industry serving India's rural BoP market, by looking at its opportunities, challenges, and potential paths to growth. The purpose of our report is to present an overall picture of these growing clean energy sectors, rather than to provide investment advice on individual companies.

To read the full publication, please click [here](#).

Impact Analysis of Rural Electrification Projects in Sub-Saharan Africa

New publication by Oxford Journal on behalf of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development reviews trends in rural electrification over the past 30 years in Sub-Saharan Africa. In particular, it is shown that motivations for rural electrification programs have evolved significantly over the years, following changes in development paradigms. The author finds, however, that knowledge of the impact of this has only marginally improved: low connection rates and weak productive utilization identified in the 1980s remain true today, and impacts on such dimensions as health, education, or income, though often used to justify projects, are largely undocumented. Indeed impact evaluations are methodologically challenging in the field of infrastructures and have been limited thus far. Nevertheless examples of recent or ongoing impact evaluations of rural

electrification programs offer promising avenues for identifying both the effect of electricity per se and the relative effectiveness of approaches to promoting it.

To read the full publication, please click [here](#) (subscription needed)

Rapid Resource Assessment for Rural Electrification: Development and Demonstrating a Methodology

New publication by USAID and Core International looking at Zambia's rural electrification needs by Rapid Resource Assessment. Rapid Resource Assessment is a newly emerging methodology with origins in rapid rural appraisal. Rapid rural appraisal is often described as a process of learning about rural conditions in an intensive, iterative, and expeditious manner or any systematic activity designed to draw inferences, conclusions, hypotheses or assessments, including the acquisition of new information during a limited period of time.

To read the full publication, please click [here](#).



RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND RENEWABLE ENERGIES EVENTS: INCOMING APPOINTMENTS

12-14 October 2010: Solar Power International, Anaheim, California

Solar Power International has been established as the only "must attend" solar event in the US. It is the largest solar conference and expo in North America, currently by a factor of more than 5, and attracts the widest range of professional attendees. ARE board member Michael Wollny of SMA will be in attendance. The event also educates consumers through a one-night public opening of the expo hall.

Second, the money you spend to attend Solar Power International is used to support the industry and grow US solar markets. Proceeds from the event go to SEPA and SEIA, the 2 non-profit presenters, and are used to support the organizations' year-round activities. Many other solar events in the US are put on by for-profit groups.

For more information and details, click [here](#).

27-29 October 2010: Delhi Renewable Energy Conference, Delhi, India

Government of India is hosting the Delhi International Renewable Energy Conference (DIREC) 2010 from October 27-29, 2010 on the theme of 'Up-scaling and Mainstreaming Renewables for Energy Security, Climate Change and Economic Development. DIREC 2010 is the fourth in the series of global Ministerial-level Conferences on Renewable Energy, which follows from the initiative taken at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, acknowledging the significance of renewable energy for sustainable development. DIREC 2010 is an international platform for government, private sector, and civil society leaders to jointly address the goal of advancing renewable energy. It will build upon the success and outcomes of the previous events in Washington in 2008, Beijing in 2005 and Bonn in 2004. With more than 9,000 delegates, over 250 speakers and 600 exhibitors from 50 countries, DIREC is expected to be the most significant event on renewable energy ever held in India.

ARE President Ernesto Macías will be a panelist for the topic on off-grid policy support. Policy Manager Simon Rolland will also be representing ARE.

For more information and details, click [here](#).

31 October – 4 November 2010: Access to Energy Mission to the World Bank and IDB, Washington DC, USA

We would like to highlight an upcoming mission to the World Bank and Inter-american Development Bank organized by the Private Sector Liaison Officers (PSLO) network. The topic of the mission is: "Access to Energy for the World: Green Solutions to Global Challenges". It pursues the following objectives: initiate a dialogue with the WB, IDB and ADB officers responsible for energy sector projects; provide information about the project requirements and constraints; and their level of competitiveness in accessing bank projects and bank-financed projects and programs in the energy sector; and inform World Bank/IDB staff of the capabilities and interests of international firms in the energy sector. The programme is designed for consulting firms, individual consultants, training institutions and universities, equipment manufacturers/suppliers, and prospective sponsors of private sector projects. Please note that there is a participation fee of 500 USD.

Aneri Patel of ARE will be in attendance, so please inform the ARE Secretariat about your participation!

For more information and details, please click [here](#).

22 – 24 November 2010: 5th International Renewable Energy Storage (IRES 2010), Berlin, Germany
In 2006 EUROSOLAR and the World Council for Renewable Energy (WCRE) started the IRES conference series which intended to contribute to new developments in energy storage and to popularize the resulting applications and solutions. IRES has developed into the central platform for sharing knowledge and exchanging ideas on one of the key issues of future energy supply.

ARE Secretariat Guido Glania will be in attendance.

For more information and details, please click [here](#).

26-28 November, EU-Africa Business Forum, Tripoli, Libya

Meeting in Libya for the 3rd time, Heads of State and Government are expected to take note of progress and challenges in the implementation of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JEAS) and will provide political guidance on how to address those challenges and to deepen the partnership. On the eve of this important summit, the EU-Africa Business Forum will bring together leaders from across Europe and Africa to discuss and deepen the findings and recommendations of previous fora and reflect on key relevant issues tabled for discussion at the Heads of State and Government Summit.

ARE President Ernesto Maciàs will be in attendance.

For more information and details, please click [here](#).

29 November – 10 December, UNFCCC (COP 16), Cancun, Mexico

The conference is officially referred to as the 16th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 6th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties (CMP 6) to the Kyoto Protocol.

ARE will be present at a stand at the COP 16 event in Cancun with the European Photovoltaic Industry Association and the Solar Electric Industry Association. The planned title is “*Solar Powering the Planet Fostering Sustainable Development and Creating Jobs Today*”. Solar energy, the fastest growing energy source in the world, has enormous potential to create jobs and provides a clean, competitive and sustainable solution to meet the rising energy demands of developing countries. High-level speakers will discuss the policies needed to accelerate solar deployment.

For more information and details, please click [here](#).

1-2 December, 2nd Asian Solar Forum, Tokyo, Japan

The first meeting of the First Asian Solar Forum occurred in Manila, Philippines, on the 5-6 July 2010. The meeting was considered as a great success. As a follow-up, the second meeting will occur in Tokyo, and ARE board member Anjali Shanker will be in attendance. The meeting will discuss knowledge management, regulatory frameworks for grid-connected photovoltaics, and feasibility studies completed by member countries.

Private companies are highly encouraged to participate. If you are interested please [contact us](#).

13-15 December, Intersolar India, Mumbai, India

Intersolar India will take place from December 14–16, 2010 in Mumbai's expansive Bombay Exhibition Centre (BEC). It is the premier exhibition and conference for the photovoltaics and solar thermal industries in India. India has long been considered an attractive market for solar technology by the industry and with the "National Solar Mission," that hope is now being realized. Learn how to be a part of this rapidly growing solar market! The Intersolar India Conference will dedicate three sessions to the off-grid markets.

For more information and registration details, please click [here](#).

OTHER RENEWABLE AND RURAL ELECTRIFICATION EVENTS

WAPIC call for papers

The 7th annual West African Power Industry Convention is right around the corner. Dakar, Senegal sets the stage for this year's edition of the most influential power forum in West Africa. The WAPIC Conference Committee is now actively calling to all industry experts and power professionals working in the regional market to share your ideas and experiences with us. This year the conference will focus on the integration of standards, renewable initiatives, cross-border connectivity, rural electrification, development of distribution networks, prepayment options and metering, and loss reduction. You are now cordially invited to submit your white papers for consideration and presentation during this pivotal event being held at Le Meridien Hotel from 7 to 9 December 2010.

For more information or to send your submissions, please contact Søren Du Preez at [soren.dupreez\(at\)spintelligent.com](mailto:soren.dupreez@spintelligent.com).

Call for Zayed Future Energy Prize Nominations

The Zayed Future Energy Prize is an annual award for outstanding achievement in renewable energy and sustainability. You are invited to submit a candidate for consideration. This year, we will recognize an individual, organization or NGO for bringing the world closer to a sustainable future. Each January, the winner is awarded 1.5 million (USD) and the global honor and recognition that come with winning the Zayed Future Energy Prize. In addition to the winner, there will be up to two finalists who receive 350,000 (USD) each for the prize each year. Qualifying submissions will also receive recognition through the global CNBC online platform, amplifying the profile of the nominees. A panel of global energy experts from leading international authorities and organizations will cast their votes to select our finalists. A jury, chaired by Nobel Laureate, Dr. R.K. Pachauri, Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, will choose the winner and finalists.

Please visit www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com to learn more about the prize and submit your nomination before October 8th, 2010.

EU Sustainable Energy Week 2011

Between 11 and 15 April 2011, hundreds of events organised in all parts of Europe will show, promote, discuss and celebrate energy efficiency and renewable energy. Register your interest to stay tuned. From September onwards, you will be able to register your Energy Day on www.eusew.eu. For any immediate questions, do not hesitate to contact the EUSEW secretariat on [eusew\(at\)sustenergy.org](mailto:eusew(at)sustenergy.org). In addition to the Energy Days organised across Europe, the EU Sustainable Energy Week will also feature a series of events in Brussels, including: A 3-day policy conference organised by the European Commission from 12-14 April 2011.