

Press Release

Brussels, 4 June 2020

The Alliance for Rural Electrification announces new interim CEO

The Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE) has today announced that **David Lecoque**, formerly the Senior Manager Policy & Business Development at ARE, has been selected by the ARE Board of Directors to lead the association as interim **CEO**. The change of leadership and title is a response to the current challenges facing the industry and the Alliance's evolving medium- and long-term strategy to enhance its support to the industry to face these challenges.

Claudio Pedretti, ARE President: *“David Lecoque has been leading ARE’s Policy & Business Development work and was instrumental in positioning ARE as the leading global business association for decentralised renewable energy in rural areas. With his track record, the Board is confident he will continue to represent the interest of its Members and boost the sector at large.”*

David Lecoque takes over from Marcus Wiemann who served as ARE's Executive Director since 2013. David builds on over eight years of experience in the renewable energy sector, specialising in policy, law and business development.

Through his work, David provides streamlined business development services to more than 150 ARE Members (SME to blue chip corporates working along the renewable energy value chain), develops strategic and commercial partnerships, and advises governments and donors on how to improve market conditions to achieve clean energy access (SDG7) and broader sustainability in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Prior to ARE, David practised and qualified as a lawyer at the Brussels Bar, dealing principally with energy and environmental matters in top-tier law firms. In 2015 he was elected as one of Belgium's 100 most inspiring and sustainable young professionals. He speaks English, French, Flemish and German.

Speaking on his announcement, **David Lecoque said:** *“I am very excited to have the trust of the Board of Directors to lead ARE and support the decentralised renewable energy sector so that it can survive the current health crisis and flourish in the years to come. I look forward to taking ARE to the next level, so that together with all our Members and Partners, we can achieve clean energy access for all and build a climate safe future.”*

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For further information or request images please contact:

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Note to the editor

The [Alliance for Rural Electrification \(ARE\)](#) is an international business association with the aim to promote a sustainable decentralised renewable energy industry for the 21st century, activating markets for affordable energy services, and creating local jobs and inclusive economies. ARE enables improved energy access through business development support for more than 150 Members along the whole value chain for off-grid technologies.

