



ACCELERATING ENERGY TRANSITION

FOOD SYSTEMS TRACK: FEBRUARY EDITION

AGRO-INDUSTRY

3 February 2021 | 14:00-15:30 CET



Dejene Tezera,
UNIDO

Dejene Tezera is the Director of the Department of Agribusiness of UNIDO. In this capacity, he leads the overall coordination of UNIDO's work in agribusiness development, which includes promotion of sustainable food systems, agricultural value chains development for food and non-food applications, fisheries, micro-, small and medium-sized agribusiness enterprises creation and upgrading, skills and entrepreneurship development, agribusiness development corridors in partnership with private sector, governments and development finance institutions.

Mr. Tezera obtained his M.Sc. in Agro-Food Technology and Biotechnology from Wageningen University in the Netherlands. He has more than 30 years of experience in research, agribusiness program development and management in developing and emerging economies.



Ali Badarneh,
UNIDO

Ali Badarneh is a Palestinian Citizen and a graduate of Birmingham University, UK. He started his career in 1997 as a food safety and quality consultant for a regional consulting firm in the Middle East and then moved in 2001 to work as freelance international expert for many international companies and organizations (UNIDO, LRQA, CU, ISO, ACIDI-VOCA and USAID). He holds international accreditations in areas related to the quality and food safety auditing and training.

In 2008 moved to UNIDO Headquarters as a staff member working for the Trade Capacity Building Department before moving to the Agri-Business Department in 2016, was responsible for the design and management of technical cooperation projects in different developing countries. Lead the formulation of the UNIDO's Approach to food safety capacity building and helped position UNIDO globally as key partner in this thematic area.

Currently the Chief of the Sustainable Food Systems Division leading a team of professionals and experts for the design and management of a portfolio in areas related to Value Chain Development, Food Safety, Fisheries, Agro-parks, Biodiversity and Market systems development.

Awarded the UNIDO Role Model Award in 2019 with a scholarship to Harvard Business School on leadership skills training program. Awarded 4 Merit awards (Individual and Team) during his time at UNIDO.



Deepa Thiagarajan,
Global Agri-Food Systems, Nutrition and Value
Chain Programs

Dr. Deepa Thiagarajan is the Director of Global Agri-Food Systems, Nutrition and Value Chain Programs with 16 years of progressive leadership experience in international development on sustainable food systems, agriculture, nutrition, and health linkages at Michigan State University (MSU).

Dr. Thiagarajan directs global food and agriculture development projects funded by USAID, USDA, USFDA, World Bank, WTO, UN agencies and other organizations in several countries in South/South East Asia, Sub Saharan Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin America. Dr. Thiagarajan's global food systems development work focuses on safe, nutrient-rich value chains for agricultural investments and inclusive growth, improving nutrition, food safety and economic outcomes through evidence-based research and multi-sectoral programming and promoting sustainable livelihood in developing countries.

She also partners with private sector businesses to implement market-based solutions for nutrition security and food safety that are environmentally sustainable and promotes resiliency of small holder farmers and processors. Over the past decade, she has served as an expert consultant to the World Bank, IFC, WTO, UNIDO, WFP and the private sector in the areas of agri-business and agro-industry development, food safety and nutrition security, food supply chain management, science and technology, and agri-food policy. Currently, Dr Thiagarajan is the Lead Nutrition Sensitive Food Systems Advisor and Research Manager for the USAID Legume Systems Innovation Lab at MSU.



Alexander Mathys,
Institute of Food, Nutrition and Health IFNH

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Alexander Mathys, a food technologist, received a doctoral degree in food processing in 2008. Since 2015, he has been Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) in Sustainable Food Processing at ETH Zurich, Switzerland, where he is focusing on more efficiency and sustainability of value chains in food and feed.

His current research focuses on material and energetic utilization of plant based side streams, micro process engineering and extrusion for tailored structure formation and synthesis, innovative multi hurdle technologies for gentle preservation of healthy and high quality food, novel protein sources from algae and insects to improve food security as well as multi indicator sustainability assessment as basic analysis in food processing. Dr. Mathys was Head of the Bioeconomy Department at German Institute of Food Technologies DIL with 10 direct report in 2012-2015. He was expert in non-thermal preservation and sterilization technologies at the Nestlé Research Centre Lausanne in 2009-2012.

Dr. Mathys is the author of more than 80 publications (60 peer review articles, 10 patent applications, 9 book chapters, 1 book, >30 conference papers) and he has attended more than 100 international conferences. He has won several prestigious research awards from the International Union of Food Science and Technology ((IUFoST); International Congress on Engineering and Food (ICEF); Institute of Food Technologists (IFT); and European High Pressure Research Group (EHPRG). Furthermore Dr. Mathys was selected IFT W.K. Kellogg International Food Security Award Winner 2020; Young Researcher of the 60th Meeting of Nobel Laureates 2010; Einstein Young Scholar 2010; and A.T. Kearney Scholar 2011/2012 at the Falling Walls conferences.



William Brent,
Power for All

William Brent is a climate solutions evangelist and entrepreneur, working to promote renewable energy and other cleantech solutions through his deep experience in branding, digital media, community engagement, content, and advocacy.

As Chief Campaign Officer at Power for All, he oversees campaigns, external communications and strategic partnership for this international NGO working to end energy poverty. Prior to that, he was a senior executive and head of the cleantech practice at Weber Shandwick, an award-winning global marketing services agency and part of NYSE: IPG. He has also co-founded several media and content focused companies.

He began his career as a foreign correspondent and editor in China. A native of the United States, William has deep experience working globally, having spent nearly 20 years living in Asia and Europe.



Eric Steinberger,
ClimateScience

Eric Steinberger is the co-founder and CEO of ClimateScience, a global educational charity providing resources and activities around solutions to climate change. Before this, Eric was an AI researcher at Facebook AI and briefly worked on digital agriculture at MIT.

Eric did all this before completing his first year at the University of Cambridge. This was possible because of free online education. When he was 14, he started studying Physics and Computer Science through MIT's "Open Courseware" program, and other online material.

Consequently, Eric understands the impact online education can have and wants to use this to help the next generation of brilliant climate enthusiasts learn what they need to know in order to solve the world's biggest problems.



Juliette Besnard,
World Bank/ESMAP

Juliette Besnard is Energy Specialist at the World Bank/ESMAP. As part of the Electricity Access team, she is co-leading the Improving Livelihoods and Human Capital initiative and more especially activities related to productive uses of electricity. She has been working in the energy sector for the last 10 years, mainly in Sub-Saharan Africa.



Alois Mhlanga,
UNIDO

Alois Posekufa Mhlanga is the Chief of the Climate Technology Innovation Division in the Department of Energy at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). He has over 23 years of experience in the sustainable-energy and climate-change field.

He is responsible for flagship programmes such as the design and creation of the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and the Global Cleantech Innovation Programme. Before joining UNIDO, Mr. Mhlanga was a Renewable Energy Expert at the African Development Bank managing a vast portfolio of renewable-energy and sustainable-energy investment projects across Africa. Before that, he was the principal sustainable-energy expert at the Southern Centre for Energy and Environment and a part-time lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe for the Master of Science in Renewable Energy programme.



Cherop Soy,
SDG7 Youth Constituency

I am Cherop Soy, the Thematic Focal Point (TFP) for Energy Access at SDG7 Youth Constituency. I act as a guide and a tool for youth to actualize SDG 7 through the pillars of policy advocacy, knowledge, capacity building and youth action. The Energy Access theme is one that I thoroughly enjoy championing for as it is at the heart of SDG 7 itself. This means it often brushes shoulders with this important topic on food systems. Here in Kenya, I devote my time and efforts towards the Kenya Off-Grid Solar Access Project (K-OSAP) under the Ministry of Energy. This project operates within the scope of Kenya's development blueprint (Vision 2030). It seeks to address the energy access gap in the 14 under-served counties. With the availability of energy that is clean, renewable and sustainable, the communities in these 14 counties have been able to improve their food system structure for instance through solar cooling and clean cooking solutions.



Fadi Falah Jabr,
Arab Federation for Food Industries

Fadi Falah Jabr, General Secretary of the Arab Federation for Food Industries, the federation aims to help members exchange knowledge on recent new developments in order to reduce production costs and develop the food industry sector in the Arab world. as well as train and qualify technicians and administrators in the food industry sector. We work to support trade exchange between federation members.

He is also a member of several specialized committees in order to work to enhance the role of Arab food makers in promoting Arab food industries to the global level and to be one of the arms of Arab food security.



Mady Cisse,
Senegal

Training: Engineer in Food Industries

Doctor of Food Sciences

Doctor of Food Processing

Functions:

Professor in Food Processing and Food Science

Expert of the National Codex Alimentarius Committee of Senegal

Expert Consultant in Food of UNIDO

Chairman of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the Senegalese food innovation network

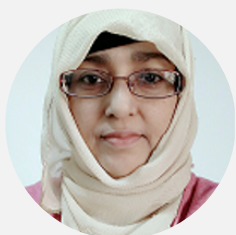
Research activities

Membrane technologies

Valorization of African raw materials

Processing and preservation of fruits and vegetables

Sensory and consumers tests



Salima Jahan,
Bangladesh

Salima Jahan, a civil bureaucrat of the Government of Bangladesh, is an academician by heart. She has been working for SREDA as Member (Joint Secretary), Renewable Energy since March 2016. Apart from her main responsibility, she is the Project Director of a project under SREDA which aims to create an enabling environment to provide 'Clean Cooking for all by 2030'.

During her long service career, she worked in the policy formulation process of the government as well as in the field of administration, management and training. Salima Jahan's academic credentials range from MA/MS to PGD in the areas of English Literature, Development Administration, Development Economics and Public policy & Management. She travelled a number of countries under government programmes for trainings, workshops, conferences, seminars and exposure visits. She loves to work in the areas of new development paradigms. She also has keen interest in travelling, reading and writing.



Olivier Dubois,
FAO

Olivier Dubois a Senior Natural Resources Officer and Coordinator of FAO's work on Energy.

Experienced Senior Officer with a demonstrated history of working in the international affairs industry. Skilled in Sustainable Agrifood Systems, Sustainable Forestry, Rural Development, Energy, and Bioeconomy. Strong research and field professional graduated from Faculty of Agronomy, Gembloux, Belgium. Fluent in English, French and Portuguese and good command of Spanish and Italian.



Eduardo Lora,
LatAm BioEnergy™

Eduardo Lora, Founder & CEO of LatAm BioEnergy™.

Eduardo was born and raised in the Dominican Republic. He founded LatAm BioEnergy™ over a decade ago and used his banking and financial training in Wall Street to become a Clean Energy Entrepreneur. He has developed a multi-disciplinary team specializing in finance, physics, organic chemistry, material science, industrial processes, industrial programming and automation, artificial intelligence and climate change, with the objective of creating a practical solution to tackle the fossil fuel carbon footprint emitted, as well as the high energy cost consumed by food processing facilities in Latin America. His company has created a Compact Clean Energy District ("CCED") based on its proprietary autonomous gasification solution that uses a very ample spectrum of biomass as its fuel for thermal, power generation and co-generation applications. His company has successfully run CCEDs in the Dominican Republic and Argentina

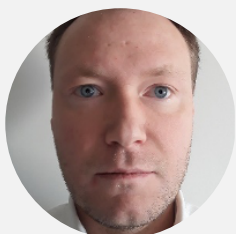


Maria Voloskovets,
Astarta Holding

Maria Voloskovets, Chief Specialist in Standardization, Certification and Quality at Astarta Holding - Department of Environment, Operational Health Safety and Certification Astarta–Kyiv is one of the largest vertically integrated agro-industrial holdings in Ukraine, a public European company that manages a socially responsible business and produces food products geared towards global markets.

Ms. Voloskovets is responsible for implementation of Energy Management practices and other energy efficiency measures within Astarta, specifically it's sugar processing and production segment.

Entities comprising Astarta Holding took part in the UNIDO Energy Efficiency Capacity Building Programme and in this way they represented pilot project that demonstrated considerable achievements in the form of financial and energy consumption reduction benefits. Due to introduction and implementation of Energy Management Systems, the Astarta holding has accelerated integration of sustainable practices and application of more efficient green technologies.



Marco Morando,
RINA

Marco Morando has strong experience in Energy & Resource Efficiency Audits, Due Diligences and Feasibility Studies in Energy Transformation Chain (Upstream Oil&Gas, Oil Refineries, LNG, etc.) and Industries (Iron & Steel, Coke, Pulp and Paper, Food and Drinks, Aluminium, Lead and Zinc, Foundries, Forges, Agro-Industries, etc).

He has recently coordinated several energy and resource efficiency audits in several agri-food industries, among which: tomato paste, chocolate and biscuits, farming and animal rearing, dairy, beer production, fruit juices, etc.

In addition, he developed a strong experience in GHGs Emission Reductions calculations, development of UNFCCC new CDM Methodologies, PDD; CDM and JI Projects-related training courses organization —in particular, for industrial and power generation sectors; he has deep knowledge of the UNFCCC methodologies.



Jacob Etunganan,
SNV

Jacob Etunganan, A Senior Advisor Energy and Agriculture for Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania at SNV, The Netherlands Development Organization with the Regional Climate Resilient Agribusiness for Tomorrow Project (CRAFT). He is a Certified Energy Auditor, CEA #90577, accredited as an International Member with the Association of Energy Engineers, USA, and a Lead Auditor for the Energy Management System ISO 50001 with 12 years in Renewable energy and energy efficiency programming. He is a member of the Energy Efficiency Network of Uganda and Energy Efficiency Association of Uganda. He holds Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Engineering from Makerere University, Uganda together with other continuous professional development courses in sustainable energy engineering from KTH, Sweden, decentralized energy systems design and deployment, energy efficiency, climate change mitigation and adaptation, people management, business management and organizational leadership.

Skilled and Knowledgeable with hands-on experience in deploying renewable energy and energy efficient solutions based on value chains, landscapes and market systems development programming at policy and practice level through market-led, human rights-based (HRBA), multistakeholder partnerships, results-based financing and education for sustainable development (ESD) approaches with Government, businesses and civil society.

Prior to joining SNV as a Senior Advisor Energy and Agriculture at SNV. He has worked in research, knowledge and technology transfer, Food processing industry, project design and management, consultancy, Policy advocacy and business development portfolios in the World Wide Fund for nature (WWF), Busitema University, Makerere University's College of Engineering, Design, Art and Technology, British Council's Africa Knowledge Transfer Partnerships Programme and SEAP Engineers Ltd. He is a facilitator, business developer, advisor and an advocate for sustainable, resilient, and inclusive low-carbon energy development pathways that support food systems, thriving natural ecosystems, mobility, businesses, and people well-being. All in all, Jacob, purposes always to blend scientific know-how, business know-how, community perspectives and entrepreneurial enthusiasm in creating sustainable impactful solutions for businesses and people.



Heike Hoedt,
Simply Solar

Heike Hoedt has more than two decades of experience in coordination and implementation of solar thermal energy projects. Her speciality lies in technology transfer to local manufacturers of Scheffler concentrators and in the design and implementation of solar powered low pressure steams systems for process industry.

Since 1997 secretary of Solare Brücke e.V. , globally acting NGO in Germany, www.solare-bruecke.org, responsible for project communication yearly project and trainings with Solare Brücke e.V. 2010 partner in Simply Solar, Scheffler Technology and Consulting, www.simply-solar.de. Since 2011 managing director of Simply Solar, Scheffler Technology and Consulting. 2014 graduation as CAD designer.

In the framework of Simply Solar from 2010 to now and continuing: Solar energy projects with personal on-site involvement and full responsibility in India, Comoros, Burkina Faso, Pakistan, South Korea, Kenia, Jordan (Zatari), France, Niger, Cambodia, Morocco Technologies: Scheffler Reflectors (2m² to 60m²), Solar Trackers, Solar Dryers, Photovoltaics, biomass boilers, solar steam generation, solar hot water.



Ramy Boujawde,
Berytech

Ramy Boujawdeh joined Berytech in 2014 as the Deputy General Manager. He has been leading the Incubation and Entrepreneurship Business Development arm that supports innovative Lebanese startups and SMEs, providing Business Support, Mentorship, Coaching, Fundraising, Hosting, Networking and Internationalization and part of Innovation and Entrepreneurship regional programs.

He designed and leads the A.C.T. Smart Innovation Hub initiative, a first of its kind in MENA focusing on both Agtech and Cleantech. He is also the manager of the Regional Innovation Hub (RIH) in the MENA Region for the Water and Energy for Food (WE4F) challenge fund. Between 2000 and 2014, Ramy amassed a diversified knowledge in the fields of change management, quality management, operations, as he filled roles in General and Regional Management in different industries across 3 continents. He is keen on mobilizing his knowledge and connections to the best interest of the stakeholders he supports.

He advises startups in Lebanon and is an Angel Investor with SEEDERS. Since his return to Lebanon, Ramy has been actively supporting social causes such as education, sustainability, agriculture, environment, gender equity and economic development.

Ramy is the Vice President of a Lebanese NGO – Rural Entrepreneurs, and is part of the External Advisor Board of the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Science at the American University of Beirut. He is also a member of the council of representatives at the order of Engineers and Architects. Ramy was recently named as a Board member representing all Non-EU Members including Lebanon, in the European Business & Innovation centers Network (EBN). Ramy holds a bachelor's degree in Agriculture Engineering from AUB, and a master's degree in Business Management and Economics.



Passant Fouad,
Juhayna

In 2015, Passant Fouad Joined Juhayna as Head of Communication. Her vast expertise spans over 17 years, and encompasses the following areas: Media, Sponsorships & Activations, Public Relations, Corporate Social Responsibility & Sustainability, Call Center, and finally Factory Visits.

Over the course of Fouad's career, she worked at various multinationals, starting by Motorola, at which she was part of the Sales & Marketing department. Later, she joined Nokia as Head of Marketing, where she was overseeing North East Africa, planning, and implementing campaigns in Egypt, Sudan, and Libya.

Prior to all of that, and specifically in 2010, Passant joined JWT to handle the Media Relations for the Egyptian Tourist Authority in 32 Arab & foreign states. Fouad also played a key role, during the Egypt Economic Development Conference, as Director in Charge to support Egypt's economy in 2015.

It is noteworthy that Passant holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Marketing, International Relation, and Psychology. In addition, she acquired her Master's Degree in Business Administration specializing in Marketing & Operations Management from the American University in Cairo (AUC).



Kuakoon Piyachomkwan,
National Center for Genetic Engineering and
Biotechnology (BIOTEC), National Science and
Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)

Dr. Kuakoon Piyachomkwan earned her Ph.D. in Food Science and Technology from Oregon State University, USA in 1997. Her research interest is on food carbohydrate, starch properties and enzyme technology. She has published over 60 international publications in peer reviewed journals and patents. Dr. Piyachomkwan has been working collaboratively with many local and international companies in the area of cassava & starch industry and bioethanol industry. She has been also appointed as the Committee of Thai Commercial Product Standards by Ministry of Commerce and an honorary member of Thai Tapioca Starch association. In 2016, she was appointed Deputy Executive Director of National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC), a member of National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA) and is responsible for R&D activities in Industrial Biotechnology.

Currently, Dr. Piyachomkwan is also a member of NSTDA team working on the Eastern Economic Corridor of Innovation (EECi), to support the development of an Eastern Economic Corridor, being a focal point for Thailand's promotion of 10 strategic industries to become the "New Engines of Growth" to drive the country's economy.