

## Energy+ and UN Sustainable Energy for All Roundtable Dialogue Summary

New York, USA, September 25, 2012

## **Present:**

George Assaf, UNIDO Manish Bapna, WRI Morgan Bazilian, NREL Reid Detchon, UNF Yannick Glemarec, UNDP Luis Gomez-Echeverri, UN-SEFA Pablo Gutman, WWF-US Hans Olav Ibrekk, Norway Vijay Iyer, World Bank Shaanti Kapila, ADB Daan Lameris, DOEN Paul Maseli, UNIDO Petter Nore, Norway Seema Paul, CWF David Reed, Energy+ TWG Daniel Riley, WWF-US Daniel Schroth, AfDB Christine Eibs Singer, UN-SEFA HLG Minoru Takada, UN-SEFA Richenda Van Leeuwen, UNF Filippo Veglio, WBCSD Kandeh Yumkella, UNIDO

## **Summary of Key Points**

The diversity of institutions, perspectives and experiences notwithstanding, participants agreed on the following issues:

- Energy+ and Sustainable Energy for All, both recently-launched global initiatives, must take advantage of their current successes to build further support for inclusion of energy issues in the global development agenda. Critical to their success in generating greater support will be demonstrating sustainable, replicable "successes" on the ground in a diverse range of countries.
- The degree and depth of coordination between the two initiatives, as well as with the programs represented by other participants, will influence significantly the overall success or failure of achieving transformational change for shared energy access and climate objectives.
- Therefore: for Energy+, Sustainable Energy for All, and the many others active in this effort public and private, local and global the challenge will be to develop accessible and effective platforms for coordination that are linked at the local, national, regional, and global levels. National Energy Registries to be developed

through Energy+ country programs could be an innovative and effective tool to strengthen coordination.

- While high profile international initiatives are necessary for mobilizing action and rationalizing resources, the center of gravity of our efforts should focus on national and local levels and be tailored to the specific needs and requirements in each country. In the national context a number of key issues were underscored to ensure the sustainability of reforms and transformational outcomes including:
  - Understanding the risk/reward relation and barriers to investments and innovation is critical to providing proper incentives to local investors and entrepreneurs.
  - Policy reforms are a central part of national activities and must include appropriate incentives for investors.
  - Civil society pressure and oversight is critical to ensuring transparent, accountable systems of governance.
  - Active civil society engagement is crucial to creating and sustaining the political will of public officials in promoting energy sector reforms and expansion.
  - Energy sector programs should be linked to development of other sectors including education, extractive industries and agriculture. Much of the work that needs to be done is not energy specific, but touches on broadbased development issues, such as governance and institution building, access to capital, and education.
  - Capacity building remains a central challenge and opportunity for energy sector programs.
  - Our various programs need to coordinate with and leverage the many other sources of financing available in each country. There is a wide variety of potential financiers from end users to the local banks, from manufactures to donors and international financial institutions, and from investors to national governments. Each has a different way of operating, a different set of expectations, and a different risk/reward calculus.
  - Intermediation is important from the outset to make sense of and synchronize these various "colors of money". Much of the coordination work will necessarily focus on the particular type of intermediation needed in each country context.
  - All our efforts must maintain a deliberate focus on the energy consumer. Though this may seem axiomatic, meeting this standard is a complex challenge given that international public finance available to support energy programs can obscure this focus. A key example is how quickly

international programs, offering only renewable energy and other innovative programs can overlook the imperative of ensuring energy security for business and domestic consumers.

• In conclusion, we agree that further developing a global movement is a central objective of our collective efforts. Such a movement will require strong civil society and private sector support to develop a broad consensus within individual countries and to create the political commitment for change at the global level. A diverse, focused movement is needed to create the political will for sustained change.

New York September 25, 2012 David Reed, convener