

A Green Deal for the Mediterranean – North-South Energy Partnerships

Speakers and Panelists



H.E. Nizar Baraka

Minister of Equipment and Water of the Kingdom of Morocco

Born on February 6, 1964 in Rabat, Nizar BARAKA, Secretary General of the Istiqlal Party since 2017, has been appointed, on October 7, 2021, by HIS MAJESTY THE KING MOHAMMED VI, Minister of

Equipment and Water.

Mr BARAKA holds a PhD in economic sciences from the University of Aix Marseille (1992) and a diploma in econometrics from the Mohammed V Faculty of Law (1985).

After a teaching experience at the Faculty of Legal, Economic and Social Sciences of Mohammed V University and at the National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics, he joined the Ministry of Finance in 1996 where he held several positions of responsibility, before being appointed Deputy Director of the Directorate of Studies and Financial Forecasting in 2006.

Mr BARAKA was Minister of State for Economic and General Affairs (2007-2012), Minister of Economy and Finance (2012-2013), then Chairman of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council (2013-2018). He was awarded the "Best Finance Minister in the MENA Region for 2012" and "Finance Minister of the Year 2012" by The Banker, the Financial Times' reference press group. He was also awarded the title of "Finance Minister of the Year for the Middle East and North Africa, in 2013" by the magazine "Emerging markets", reference of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Mr. BARAKA is active in some national and international associations and organisations. He was appointed by HIS MAJESTY THE KING, in January 2005, member of the Averroes Committee for the rapprochement between the Moroccan and Spanish peoples, and contributed to the 50th Anniversary Report on Human Development.

Since 2006, he is a member of the National Observatory of Human Development.



Cristina Lobillo Borrero

Director – Head of Energy Platform Task Force in DG ENER, European Commission

Originally, from Cordoba in Spain, Cristina Lobillo Borrero is a lawyer with qualifications from Spain, Belgium and the Harvard Business School. Having previously worked in the Spanish government for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, she joined the European Commission in 2004, working originally on agriculture policy and then moving to trade issues. From 2014 to 2019 she was the Head of Cabinet to the then EU Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, Miguel Arias Cañete. As Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete was the EU's chief negotiator in the COP, she was present in Paris for parts of the COP21 session and therefore had an important role in the EU team. Former Commissioner's term in office was also noted for its successful overhaul of EU energy legislation under the so-called Clean energy for all Europeans package. From December 2019 to June 2020, she was Principal Adviser at the Directorate General for Agriculture and, from June 2020 to June 2022, she was Director for Energy Policy: Strategy and Coordination in the European Commission's Directorate General for Energy. In this role, she was heavily involved in the preparations of the legislative proposals of "fit for 55" package. Her responsibilities as Director also included overseeing EU international relations on energy issues, coordination with Member States as well as with the EU institutions, together with the communication, legal and economic aspects of EU energy policy. Since June 2022 she is Director – Head of Energy Platform Task Force in DG ENER, European Commission.



Binu Parthan

Head of Regions, IRENA

Dr. Binu Parthan is the Head of Regions and responsible for country engagement within the Country Engagement and Partnerships (CEP) Division at IRENA. Prior to IRENA, he was a regional adviser at Green Climate Fund (GCF), Deputy Director General at the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP) and Executive Director of IT Power India. His energy

transition, climate change and renewable energy experience covers 20 developing countries including countries in Asia-Pacific, Africa and Latin America. Parthan holds a Doctorate in low-carbon Energy from the Technical University of Graz and Master degrees in Renewable Energy from University of Oldenburg and Industrial-Mechanical engineering from National Institute of Technology Calicut.



Layla El Hares

Managing Director, Siemens Energy Egypt

Appointed In February 2022 as Managing Director for Siemens Energy, Layla El Hares leads the company's operations and activities in Egypt.

She is a prominent international leader with over two decades of industry experience in the energy sector and has a strong background in the oil, gas and LNG industries. Before joining

Siemens Energy, she held a variety of leadership positions across the energy sector for companies such as Shell, BG Group and Schlumberger. Her career has spanned across various regions including South America, East Africa, Europe and Egypt. An Egyptian national, Layla holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the Alexandria University and a Project Management degree from Herriot watt.



Máté Heisz

Director of Global Affairs, SolarPower Europe

As Director of Global Affairs, Máté leads SolarPower Europe's International Cooperation team to ensure the association's presence and impact on the global stage. He represents SolarPower Europe in global fora such as the Global Solar Council and the IRENA Coalition for Action, and also oversees the association's funded projects. Before joining SolarPower Europe, Máté worked as a Renewable

Energy Advisor at German Development Cooperation GIZ in Tunisia. He holds a Master's degree in International Relations from the Free University of Berlin and a Master's degree in Economics from the Corvinus University of Budapest.

Moderator



Jonathan Buhl

Jonathan is a strategy and management consultant, moderator, and partner at 4Sing GmbH. He helps organizations create strategies for dealing with the challenges of today and tomorrow using foresight methods and fostering collective intelligence of leadership teams with their stakeholders. As a scenario planner he regularly deals with questions around sustainability, resilience, and change management and advises public and private sector clients in the (policy-) fields of agriculture and nutrition, chemicals, climate change, energy, economy, migration, private sector development, tourism, and value chain integration. Before joining 4Sing, Jonathan has been a development field worker focused on promotion of SMEs and a consultant and trainer on software tools for decision makers.