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Biographies of the speakers of the 4th UfM Energy and Climate Business Forum

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Shahira Amin (Moderator), Nonresident Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council

Shahira Amin is a nonresident senior fellow at the Atlantic Council's Scowcroft Middle East Security Initiative focusing on Egypt, economics, energy, water access, and women's issues.

She works in Egypt as a freelance journalist who contributes mainly to CNN's Inside Africa and CNN's digital platform. She also writes for Index on Censorship, a portal for free expression. Amin was formerly deputy head of Egyptian state television's English language channel, Nile TV, but she quit at the height of uprising, protesting state television's coverage of the developments in her country. Amin was also formerly a senior anchor and correspondent for the channel.

Amin has traveled the world covering major events and conflicts and has interviewed numerous statesmen and high-profile figures. She has been recognized by UNICEF for her efforts to improve the status of women and children in her country. Earlier this year, she received the American University in Cairo's Catalyst for Change Award and is also a recipient of the Holme of the Year Award from the Gothenburg's Handels- och Sjöfartstidning, connected to University of Gothenburg faculty.

Grammenos Mastrojeni (Co-organizer), Senior Deputy Secretary General, Union for the Mediterranean

Grammenos Mastrojeni is an Italian diplomat, professor and writer who has focused for the past 25 years on the societal, geo-strategic and economic impacts of environmental degradation, as well as on topics related to environmental protection, human cohesion, peace and security. He has taught sustainability and conflict resolution in various universities in Italy and abroad, and in 2009, the Ottawa University in Canada entrusted him with the first class by a University on the issue of Environment, resources and geostrategy.

Formerly, until August 2019, he was the Coordinator for the Environment and Head of the Science-Policy Interface at the Italian Development Cooperation, heading Italian delegations on lands, water and oceans and joining negotiations on climate and biodiversity. Chair of the UN Mountain Partnership, and Co Chair of the Global Islands Partnership, he is President of the largest Italian association for sustainable development education "Isola della Sostenibilità" and member of the Scientific Boards of numerous university courses and entities.

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Author of numerous articles and official reports on the environment, he published 8 books including “Greenhouse effect, war effect”, written together with the climatologist Antonello Pasini (Chiarelettere, 2017), and “The Ark of Noah – Saving together our Common Home” that ranked as best-selling essays. Among his publications there are also “The indissoluble cycle. Peace, environment, development and freedom in the global balance” (Vita e Pensiero, 2002); “The necessary eco-revolution” (Italian Scientific Editions, 2008); “Now or never. A decade, and not beyond, to save ourselves and the Earth” (Amazon, 2016).

Mahmoud Maged (Co-organizer), Technical Director and Lead Advisor, Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Dr. Maged K. Mahmoud is a renowned expert in sustainable energy with nearly 30 years of experience. He currently serves as the Technical Director and Lead Renewable Energy Advisor at RCREEE. Dr. Mahmoud holds a Ph.D. in Mechanical Power Engineering and has worked on various sustainable energy projects in Egypt, Arab, and Mediterranean regions.

He has played a pivotal role in shaping energy strategies, mobilizing funds, and fostering regional cooperation on sustainable energy. Dr. Mahmoud has contributed to over 80 projects, initiatives, and studies, including developing sustainable energy master plans and implementing mechanisms to enhance private sector participation. He has also been instrumental in mobilizing billions of dollars for renewable energy projects and fostering regional cooperation. He has made significant contributions to the advancement of sustainable energy initiatives endorsed by the Arab Ministerial Council of Electricity.

Prior to joining RCREEE, Dr. Mahmoud worked as an official in the Egyptian New and Renewable Energy Authority, where he contributed to setting renewable energy strategies and implementing renewable energy projects. He is a member of several prestigious committees and has authored/co-authored over 50 publications. Dr. Mahmoud is an adjunct lecturer at the British University in Egypt and the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, and a certified trainer in energy and management. His extensive experience and contributions have made him a leading figure in sustainable energy, driving advancements in sustainable energy policies and projects across the Arab region.

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Ouael Chouchene, Secretary of State for Energy Transition, Ministry of Industry, Mines & Energy of Tunisia

Prior to his appointment as Secretary of State for Energy Transition in January 2024, Ouael Chouchene spent more than 6 years at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), where he was in charge of investments in the energy and natural resources sectors in Tunisia.

He worked closely with the Ministry in charge of Energy on the reforms of the legal and contractual frameworks of the renewable energy programme. He also initiated and supervised a financing and restructuring programme to the public power utility STEG, accompanied by a reform roadmap designed around three main pillars: corporate and climate governance, modernisation of financial management and inclusion in the energy professions. More recently, he led the EBRD's participation in the financing of the Tunisia-Italy power interconnection project (ELMED). Prior to joining the EBRD, he worked in Europe in mergers and acquisitions advisory and financial auditing.

Ouael Chouchene holds a Master's degree in Management from ESCP Business School (Paris) and a Bachelor's degree in Higher Commercial Studies from IHEC Carthage (Tunis).

Yassaa Noureddine, Commissioner for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Algeria's Prime Minister's Office

Dr. Noureddine Yassaa is the Commissioner for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency at the Prime Minister's Office, in Algeria. He is Professor at University of Science and Technology Houari Boumediene in Algiers and former Director of the Algerian Centre for Renewable Energy Development. A Bureau Member of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Member of Board of Trustees of the Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE).

Dr. Yassaa serves in several national, regional, and international committees on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Environment, Green Hydrogen, Climate Change, Energy Transition and Sustainable Development. As a former Research Scientist at the Max-Planck Institute in Mainz, Germany, he has been involved in many international research programmes. Dr. Yassaa is author and co-author of more than 80 peer-reviewed international scientific publications, member of editorial boards of several international scientific journals and manager of national and international programmes.

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As recognition of his work, Dr. Yassaa has received several national and international awards.

Mahmoud Fathallah, Director of Department of Environments and Meteorological Affairs, League of Arab States

Director of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Meteorology and Head of the Technical Secretariat of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for Environmental Affairs at the League of Arab States. He holds a PhD in Economics from Cairo University and is an active member of several economic associations. He has a wide range of academic and applied experience in economic policy having worked in several local and regional institutions including the Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade in Egypt, the United Arab Emirates University in the United Arab Emirates, the United Nations Development Program, and USAID projects. He is also a visiting assistant professor of economics at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University and has a number of publications, He is co-editor of the Joint Arab Economic Report.

Ahmed Abdelaziz Mohamed Badr, Director-Project Facilitation and Support, International Renewable Energy Agency

Ahmed Badr is the Director of the International Renewable Energy Agency's (IRENA) Project Facilitation and Support division. The division offers members dedicated project implementation support. Mr. Badr joined IRENA in April 2020 and brings more than 30 years of international experience in the field of banking and finance to the Agency.

In his role, Mr. Badr is tasked with leading the development of the division by building strong lines of cooperation with development banks and international financial institutions. He also spearheads IRENA's implementation of the Climate Investment Platform, a multi-stakeholder platform established in partnership with SEforALL, the UNDP and in coordination with the Green Climate Fund, which has the objective to streamline access to climate funding for developing countries and advance the deployment of renewable technologies. He also manages IRENA's ongoing relationship with the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development.

Mr. Badr also leads the execution of the Energy Transition Accelerator Financing Platform (ETAF). ETAF is a multi-stakeholder climate finance solution which aims to accelerate energy transitions by directing at least USD 5.0 billion by 2030 into renewable energy projects in emerging economies.

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Prior to joining IRENA, Mr. Badr held several senior operational positions in the field of climate change, renewable energy, energy efficiency, water and infrastructure projects in a number of multinational financial institutions, including the World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Commission (EuropeAid), and Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

Mr. Badr is a certified infrastructure project manager, with a B.Sc. in Civil Engineering and master's degree in Infrastructure Economics from the Université de Nantes, France.

Christian Berger, Head of Delegation, The European Union Delegation to Egypt

Before coming to Egypt Christian Berger served as Ambassador and Head of the EU Delegation to Turkey from 2016 to 2020, and Ambassador to Turkmenistan. From 2011 to 2016, he was the Director/Deputy Managing Director for the Middle East and North Africa at the European External Action Service in Brussels; and from 2008 to 2011 EU Representative / Head of Delegation in Jerusalem. From 2006 to 2008 he was Head of the European Commission Crisis Response & Peace-building Unit, and from 2005 to 2006 EU-Representative to the Quartet Special Envoy (James Wolfensohn), working mainly on the Rafah Agreement (Egypt-Gaza border crossing). In 1997 Christian Berger joined the European institutions. At first, he was responsible for relations with Syria, then Political Advisor on Middle East issues. In earlier positions, he served with the OSCE in Vienna and the United Nations in Syria (UNDOF), Gaza and Jerusalem (UNRWA). Christian Berger is an Austrian citizen; he is married with two children and holds degrees in law from the Universities of Vienna and London (LSE).

Tibor Stelbaczky, Principal Adviser – Energy Diplomacy, European External Action Service

Since 2022 September Tibor Stelbaczky is working at the European External Action Service (EEAS) as Principal Adviser on Energy Diplomacy. He is dealing with the external dimension of the EU's energy policy and the implications of the energy transition worldwide.

Before joining the EEAS, Ambassador Stelbaczky was the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the EU in Brussels between 2019 and 2022 and Deputy Permanent Representative of Hungary to the EU between 2015 and 2019.

Graduated in economic sciences and earned a PhD in international relations. His career started at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a member of the accession negotiation team at the State Secretariat for EU Integration. Later he was first posted to Brussels in 2004

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and served as a Mertens diplomat until 2011, including the first Hungarian EU Presidency in 2011. Then between 2011 and 2014 he was Head of Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs dealing with climate, energy and environmental issues, including participation at COP meetings. Before moving again to Brussels, he was posted to Toronto, Canada as an economic and trade counsellor between 2014 and 2015.

Roberta Boniotti (Moderator), Secretary-General, Mediterranean Association of National Agencies for Energy Management

Since 2017 Roberta Boniotti has been the Secretary-General of Association of National Agencies for Energy Management in the Mediterranean Region, the Association of National Agencies for Energy Management in the Mediterranean Region, a key stakeholder of the UfM Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Platform, representing 13 Countries from the Northern and Southern shores of the Mediterranean.

Since 2010 she has been working as the Advisor on European and International Affairs at ENEA - the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development - in Brussels, maintaining key links with stakeholders in the EU institutions.

Previously she was a Member of the Board of Directors and a Member of the Board of Auditors in several private research and innovation companies in Italy and Head of the Unit “Company Relations Management” at ENEA Headquarters in Rome.

She is an economist, holds a master’s in business administration (MBA) from the University of Bologna, and has more than 20 years of experience in the sectors of energy, the environment, and sustainable economic development.

She is ENEA’s Representative in the Network of European National Energy Agencies (EnR) and in EEFIG, the Energy Efficiency Financial Institutions Group, a member of the Advisory Board of Sustainable Energy Investments Forums Initiative, a member of the Executive Working Group of TAFTIE, the European Association of leading National Innovation Agencies, and a member of the Control Group of the ISSS, the Innovation Platform Sustainable Sea and Ocean Solutions.

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Ghada Rahal, Future Energy Leader, World Energy Council

Ghada is a dedicated sustainability professional with experience in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainability. As a sustainability professional, she helps clients set and achieve decarbonization goals, manages EPC contracts, and supports major green projects in the MENA region. Ghada also serves as a Future Energy Leader at the World Energy Council. She is also the Education and Events Lead at the Advancing Net Zero Volunteering Team.

Ghada holds master's degrees in both mechanical engineering and energy studies. She is a Certified Energy Manager (CEM), Certified Measurement and Verification Professional (CMVP), LEED AP O&M, and Pearl Qualified Professional (PQP). Her accolades include the 'Rising Star in Sustainability and Energy Leadership' award by the 2023 Women in Energy Summit.

An advocate for women's leadership in STEM, Ghada has a proven track record in technical support, strategic development, and project management. She regularly speaks at industry conferences, sharing her expertise and inspiring others in the energy sector

Radia Sedaoui, Chief, Energy Section, Sustainable Development Policies Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Ms. Radia Sedaoui has been the Chief of Section at the Climate Change and Natural Resource Sustainability Cluster of the UN Economic Social Commission of West Asia (ESCWA) since 2016.

Ms. Radia is an internationally recognized expert who brings more than 24 years of experience in energy and economic policies, renewable energy and energy efficiency, energy modelling, oil and gas value chains and market, carbon management, water-energy-food nexus, circular economy, economic diversification and climate change policies and technologies. Radia has a track record of technical and policy papers on energy market dynamics, climate change and sustainability. She also led numerous projects on sustainable energy and climate change.

Ms. Radia previously served as Head Statistics and Gas Modeling Department at the Intergovernmental Organization of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum in Qatar and previously held several senior positions in Algeria with "Sonatrach" as Director of Strategy and Corporate, Head Portfolio management and member of the Board of



Directors of Sonatrach affiliates in Up-stream, Midstream and Trading. Ms. Sedaoui holds a Bachelor of Industrial Engineering, a master's in petroleum economics and a master's degree in business administration.

Ayman Ismail, Chairman For Technical Affairs, Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority Deputy

Eng. Ayman Ismail has been the Deputy Chairman for Technical Affairs at the Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority (PENRA) since January 2020. Prior to this role, he served for many years as the General Director of the Palestinian Energy and Environment Research Center (PEC) within PENRA.

He is an expert in energy policy, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and energy economics. Eng. Ismail is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE), the Committee of Experts on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency at the League of Arab States, and the Energy Committee at the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

Boukhalfa Yaici, Managing Director, Green Energy Cluster Algeria

For more than 30 years, he was involved in all segments of solar industry. He started his career in 1987 as a researcher for CDER (Centre de Développement des Energies Renouvelables). During a decade, he developed and installed different off-grid systems. He left the CDER and joined private companies (local and international as Total Energie and Isofoton) installing thousands of off-grid systems. In 2008, he joined Cevital Group with the aim to develop industrial projects in CSP and PV technologies. During this period, he participated to set up DII (Desertec Industrial Initiative) with European companies in Berlin in 2009. Leaving Cevital in 2011, he set up his own consulting company (EnR Engineering Services) providing technical advisory to national and international companies and World Bank.

With other industrial members, he founded the Cluster Energie Solaire (CES) in June 2017, a non-profit organisation dedicated to promote synergies between members and positioning itself as a partner for ministries in charge to promote RE in Algeria. Since the inception of CES, he headed the board directors of Cluster Energie Solaire. In September 2019, he was appointed as managing director.

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In December 2022, the members of CES decided to extent the objectives of the Cluster to add electric vehicles, green hydrogen, etc. and changing the name becoming “Green Energy Cluster Algeria Groupement”.

Academic: Boukhafa Yaïci holds an Engineering Degree from Hydrocarbons and Chemical National Institute (INHC, Boumerdes, Algeria) in 1984 and Master degree in Renewable Energy at HCR (Haut Commissariat à la Recherche, Algiers) in 1987.

Farrah Boularas, MENA Program Manager, International Energy Agency

Farrah Boularas is the Middle East and North Africa Programme Manager at the International Energy Agency (IEA). She leads the IEA’s engagement with the region and is responsible for the Agency’s cooperation and liaison with partner governments, institutions, and energy sector stakeholders in MENA. Her role also includes monitoring and analysing energy policy and sector developments across the region.

Before joining the IEA, Farrah was a Director at S&P Global, where she led a team responsible for research on African and Middle Eastern oil and downstream markets. She was also in charge of the development of short- and long-term outlooks for the downstream energy sector in MENA and Sub-Saharan Africa. Farrah brings over 15 years of industry experience in African and Middle Eastern energy markets. Her expertise includes regional and country-level analysis on regulatory frameworks, geopolitical and economic drivers for energy demand, supply, and investment, as well as insights into potential energy transition pathways for both regions. Throughout her career, she has also been involved in consulting assignments in the MENA region, the Mediterranean Basin, and Africa, primarily focusing on strategic analysis, market entry, and asset valuations, advising NOCs, IOCs, and regional energy players.

Farrah holds a Master’s degree in Energy, Finance, and Carbon, as well as a Master of Science in Economics and Corporate Strategy from Paris Dauphine University.

Marie-Claire Boillot (Moderator), Senior Advisor, Energy and Climate Action DG, Union for the Mediterranean

Senior Energy and Climate Change Expert at the Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat (UfMS) since November 2022, Marie-Claire Boillot has working in international cooperation for more than 18 years and dedicated her career to strengthen the security and well-being of populations including their resilience and responses to natural and human threats. She worked for more than 12 years in the

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Middle East (Palestine, Israel, Lebanon, Egypt, and Jordan) promoting initiatives and dialogues towards sustainable institutional reforms and renewable energy programs. Prior to joining the UfMS, she was head of the Global Threats Unit at Expertise France in the Peace, Security and Stability Department.

Guido Clary, Head of EIB Regional Hub for North Africa and the Near East in Cairo, European Investment Bank

Guido Clary has been appointed Head of Regional Hub for North Africa and the Near East for the European Investment Bank in Cairo (from 1 September 2023). Previously, from September 2017 to August 2023, he served as the EIB Head of Western Balkans and Turkey Unit, in charge of originating, structuring, and executing transactions with public sector, corporates and banks across the Region. He joined the EIB in 2012 as a Senior Banker serving the Greek market. Previously, Guido has worked as Senior Manager in the operations of SACE, with responsibilities ranging from new products development to origination activity in Asia. Guido started his career in 1996 working as a Management Consultant in the strategy practice of Ernst & Young, in the UK and in Italy. He graduated in Economics from “La Sapienza” University of Rome and obtained an MBA from the NUS Business School, Singapore.

Anisse Terai, Managing Director, Tell Group

Anisse Terai is managing director and partner at Tell Group, an investment management firm focused on emerging markets. He is also an affiliated professor and the scientific advisor of the Energy & Strategy Program at ESAA Business School. He is an expert of the African Continental Free Trade Area, energy transition, and multilateral affairs, including BRICS, G20, and the WTO.

Previously, Anisse worked for the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group, in different managerial positions, on public policy, economic affairs, institutional partnerships, investment management, international trade, and corporate & infrastructure finance. He is the founding managing director and member of the investment committee of ISEF, a sovereign energy fund. He was a senior executive advising the Chairman & CEO of Sonatrach, and he worked at the strategy consulting division of SLB (Schlumberger). He was assistant dean at the Paris School of International Affairs at Sciences Po, and he has been teaching and supervising graduate students at Sciences Po, HEC Paris and the University of Paris-Dauphine.

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Anisse is listed among the Top 100 Africa Future Economic Leaders by the Institut Choiseul. He is a graduate of HEC Alger, Sciences Po Paris, and Ecole Nationale d'Administration and a Fellow of the United Nations Alliance for Civilization and the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard University. Anisse holds a master's degree in public administration from Harvard Kennedy School, where he was bestowed a full merit scholarship and the Eric Yankah Award. He also studied at Harvard Business School and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he was affiliated with the Security Studies Program. Anisse aspires to contribute to the development of emerging markets through investment in equity and infrastructure. He is also engaged at the policy level to reinforce multilateralism and the multi-polar international system. His research focus as an AsiaGlobal Fellow explored Africa-Asia economic integration, international cooperation, and security, particularly on the pivotal role of Algeria-China strategic partnership.

Amgad Elmahdi, Regional Manager, Green Climate Fund

Dr. Amgad Elmahdi is the Water Sector Lead at Green Climate Fund-GCF, with over 25 years of experience and expertise in hydrology, water resources assessment, water accounting, water governance, water policy, planning, and NEXUS management, in operational, research, and academic settings. He works closely with accredited entities (AE), nationally designated authorities (NDA), and other internal/external stakeholders, to provide leadership and oversight of the portfolio of investments in water resources, which distinguishes the Fund as a unique partner for addressing climate change.

Before joining GCF, Dr Elmahdi served as the Director of the MENA Region with the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), where he developed the business portfolio for R4D in the MENA Region. Prior to joining IWMI, he was the Head of the Water Resources Section and Chief Supervising Hydrologist at the Bureau of Meteorology-Australia, where he established the water assessment information program. His experiences involved providing evidence-based science and low-cost solutions to sustainably manage water and land resources for water and food security, people's livelihoods, and the environment.

He is also a recognised International Water and Natural Resources Management Expert and serves as the Chair of Water Security Bureau-IWRA (International Water Resources

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Association). He has received several awards nationally and internationally for his Science Impact for Landscape Water modelling in Australia, a CSIRO Strategic Excellence Award for Partnership and an ICID WatSave award.

Rana El Guindy, Economics and Finance Expert, Econoler International Energy

Rana El-Guindy is an Energy Economics and Sustainable Finance Expert at Econoler. Ms. El-Guindy holds a master's degree in environmental and natural resources economics from Toulouse School of Economics. She has an in-depth knowledge of the MENA region energy markets and has developed a vast network among international, regional, and local organisations and stakeholders related to the energy and financial sectors. She worked on numerous energy and climate related projects over the passed 11 years. She also has proven experience in investments impact assessment and socio-economic analysis, gender approach, job creation and environmental impacts. Before joining Econoler, Rana worked at the Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE) for 9 years, where she acquired in-depth knowledge of the local and regional contexts related to climate policies and, more particularly, renewable energy and energy efficiency development policies and frameworks. Her experience in the MENA region made her strongly knowledgeable about the ground state of policy and regulatory framework as well as social, environmental, and economic conditions within the region. Throughout her assignments, she developed strong inter-personal skills and ability to work in a multinational teams and diverse environments.

Ashraf Zeitoun, Team Lead, Santec

Mr. Zeitoun leads the technical assistance for various green financing facilities established by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). He is a seasoned sustainable energy consultant with over 15 years of experience. Before that, Mr. Zeitoun worked with a United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) program aimed at improving energy efficiency in the industrial sector.

Mr. Zeitoun holds a Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Engineering with a specialization in Energy and Power from Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, UK.

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Ines Duarte (Moderator), Project Manager, Energy and Climate Action DG, Union for the Mediterranean

Ines Duarte is a specialist in Climate Finance. She is currently a Project Manager at the Energy and Climate Action Division of the Secretariat of the Union of the Mediterranean.

Yusra Assaker, Senior Energy Specialist, World Bank

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Ahmed ElSaket, Project Officer, European Investment Bank

Ahmed is a seasoned finance professional with over a decade of experience, currently serving in the project finance division at the European Investment Bank (EIB) regional office in Cairo. His expertise spans the entire project cycle, from identification and structuring to due diligence and portfolio management. Ahmed closely follows market and sector developments, particularly in green hydrogen, renewable energy, and desalination in the MENA region. He holds an MBA from Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

Selimcan Azizoglu, Senior Manager Program and Partnerships, Climate Action Center of Excellence (CACE), an initiative of the Gulf Organisation for Research and Development (GORD), Doha/Qatar

Engr. Selimcan Azizoglu, Selimcan Azizoglu (Turkey) joined the Climate Action Center of Excellence (CACE) in 2024 as a Senior Manager Program and Partnerships, to support the implementation of the Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, carbon market readiness program and strategic partnerships on climate finance solutions. Before CACE, he worked as Regional Specialist at UNDP for 9 years, focusing on climate, energy, waste, circular economy and sustainable cooling projects in the MENA, Europe, Central Asia, and Africa. Earlier, he also worked for 3 years with the international medical NGO, Doctors Worldwide, coordinating humanitarian medical operations in Africa and the Middle East, including fragile/conflict countries. He holds BSc and MSc degrees in Chemical and Biological Engineering from Koc University, BA and MA degrees in Sociology, and a Climate Finance certification from the Frankfurt School of Finance.



Kishor Rajhansa, Chief Operating officer, Global Carbon Council

Kishor Rajhansa is a climate change, energy, and sustainability leader with a professional experience of 27 years at leadership positions in multi-national advisory, international regulatory and government organizations.

Currently, Kishor is working as Chief Operations Officer at Global Carbon Council (GCC), Doha, Qatar. He is primarily responsible for designing and operationalizing the Global Carbon Council, a CORSIA and ICROA approved global voluntary carbon market that is first ever from MENA region.

He holds bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering as well as degree of Masters of Technology in Energy Management and MBA in Finance. He is a certified expert in climate and renewable energy finance from Frankfurt school of finance and management.

He is the acting member of expert panel developing climate mitigation standards of UNFCCC (CDM Methodologies Panel).

Prior to taking current role at GCC, he worked for 10 years at United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Germany as Team Leader and Project Manager of Standards Setting Unit. In earlier years to that he served a lead agency of India-European Commission Energy Cooperation Programme as Energy Engineer and Ernst & Young as Manager, offering the services on energy management, climate change and sustainability.

Houda Ben Jannet Allal (Moderator), Director General, Organisation Méditerranéenne de l'Energie et du Climat

Director General of the Organisation Méditerranéenne de l'Energie et du Climat (OMEC, former OME) since 2013. She also heads the Secretariat of the UfM working group on Gas, Emissions Abatement and Hydrogen (former UfM Gas Platform) since its launch in 2016.

She joined OME in 1992 and served in several positions, with a special focus on renewable energy, demand side management, prospects, strategy and sustainability issues.

Dr. Ben Jannet graduated in energy economics from Institut Français du Pétrole (IFP), & University of Paris 2, and holds a PhD from Ecole des Mines.

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In the academic field, she served as Guest Lecturer at Ecole des Mines de Paris, Ecole Normale Supérieure (ENS), University of Versailles, Institut National des Sciences et Techniques Nucléaires & Ecole des Ingénieurs de la Ville de Paris.

Julie Chrysler, Lead, Circular Economy and Social Impact, Yunus Foundation – Yunus Environment Hub

Julie is the Director of Circular Economy and Social Impact at Yunus Environment Hub, where she oversees the strategic positioning and design of new programs that support social business entrepreneurs to adopt and implement circular solutions. She leads research, projects and thought leadership on just transition for a circular economy and builds key partnerships with organizations to help deliver the YEH mission of a world of 3 Zeros.

Julie brings over 20 years of experience leading large scale impact programs. Prior to joining Yunus Environment Hub, she was the Global Operations Lead for SAP One Billion Lives intrapreneurship program, helping employees to build sustainable social impact at scale, and launched the Cisco Entrepreneurship Institute in Spain. Julie is an active mentor and coach for social entrepreneurs, and students who want to go into impact careers.

Mohanad SalahEldin, Regional Director, German Arab Chamber of Industry and Commerce

Mohanad Salaheldin is currently serving as the Regional Director of the German Arab Chamber of Industry and Commerce, where he oversees operations for Jordan and Lebanon. As an Engineer, with a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Loughborough University and an MSc in Engineering Management from Politecnico di Torino in Italy, Mohanad transitioned to the International Development sector to positively impact the business climate and promote transitional reforms. His interest in energy transition began during his bachelor's thesis on high-concentration photovoltaic systems at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and has since evolved into a broader focus on the green economy, encompassing policies, capacity building, and public-private partnerships. Mohanad also acts as a trade and investment consultant, with extensive experience in leading strategic initiatives and fostering economic cooperation. He is well-versed and committed to sustainable development, including Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET). As a member of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Community of Practice on Youth Employment, he collaborates on policy recommendations with European partners.

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Ayman Ismail, Vice-President of Government and Institutional relations, Hitachi Energy

Ayman Ismail is Hitachi Energy's Vice President of Government & Institutional relations for MEA zone as of February 2024. In his current role, Ayman is driving the ambitious short & long-term sustainable growth through navigating geo-economic development and interests of the region and guarantying solid partnerships and commitments with governmental entities as well as business and social institutions, while building & implementing strategies and creating value that paves the path for the green energy transition.

He co-authored the published book “Entrepreneurship in Egypt from Evolution to Revolution”. Ayman Ismail is an Electrical Engineer, holding master’s degree in business and has over 20 years of experience in energy management and industrial automation domains, with top global private sector organizations.

Sara Al Haddad, Executive Director, SwissCham Egypt

NA

Nadia Chioukh (Moderator), International Cooperation and Communication Manager, Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

NA

Jane Hanna, Head of Partnerships, Arab Academy for Science and Technology – Entrepreneurship Center

Jane G. Hanna is the Head of Partnerships at AAST Entrepreneurship Center, she also worked as Business Incubators Manager where she managed the Agri-Business Incubator and MashreQ Tourism Incubator of the AAST Entrepreneurship Center.

She has been the Founder and Director of the Entrepreneurship Centre for Social Impact and its Agri-Business Incubator “ESTEDAMA” at Heliopolis University for Sustainable Development. She is also a Start-up Mentor at the EU EWEMA Program, GIZ, ChangeLabs Impact Accelerator, and other programs.

Jane has been working as Innovation and Entrepreneurship Adviser for different academic institutions where she participated in developing and managing internationally funded innovation projects with progressive experience in managing business incubation programs.

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Jane received a master degree from the University of Edinburgh, UK, an International Diploma in Euro-Mediterranean Innovation and Entrepreneurship from the Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI).

Salma Hatem Abdallah, Program Coordinator, The American University in Cairo – Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Salma Hatem Abdallah holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and International Economics, with a major in Economics, from Misr International University. Currently serving as a Project Coordinator at the American University in Cairo - Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, she is spearheading efforts to support women's economic empowerment and help women entrepreneurs grow their businesses.

Salma is actively involved in Phase 3 of the UN Women-UNIDO joint program, "Women Economic Empowerment for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth - Entrepreneurship Support" (RABEHA), in collaboration with the National Council for Women and the Ministry of Trade and Industry, funded by Global Affairs Canada. Additionally, she plays a key role in implementing the "Women Economic Empowerment" project, a UN initiative funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), in partnership with the National Council for Women and the Ministry of International Cooperation and Ministry of Labor.

Her work focuses on fostering inclusive and sustainable growth, particularly through empowering women entrepreneurs and helping them scale their ventures.

Zeyad Daradkeh, Chief Executive Officer, Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation Foundation

Executive President, "Sawa Network" for Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation. An experienced leader in social entrepreneurship and innovation, Zeyad Daradkeh heads "Sawa" Network, focusing on empowering vulnerable communities through sustainable, community-driven solutions. He has a strong background in promoting entrepreneurship, Innovation, and fostering public-private partnerships for social and environmental impact.