

SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES

SESSION 1: GLOBAL TRENDS ON DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF UTILITIES



Ani Balabanyan, Practice Manager, IEEGK, World Bank

Ani Balabanyan has worked for the World Bank since 2002 and is currently a Practice Manager in the Energy & Extractives Global Knowledge unit. Previously, she worked as an economist for the Central Bank of Armenia. She holds an MBA from the Texas Christian University and a Master's in economics from Yerevan State University.



Edith Bayer, Energy Policy Analyst, Energy Efficiency, International Energy Agency (IEA)

Edith Bayer is an Analyst at the International Energy Agency (IEA), where she oversees the IEA's work on energy efficiency in Latin America. She has 15 years' experience working in the fields of energy efficiency, demand side management, power sector reform and climate policy. Edith has worked with governments, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders to develop solutions to advance clean energy policy. She has worked in Europe, the United States, and Latin America. Edith holds a Juris Doctor degree from New York University School of Law and a Bachelor's degree in Russian and Spanish from Tulane University. She speaks English, Polish, Spanish and Russian.



Lakin Garth, Senior Manager, Research and Industry Strategy – Utility Transformation Challenge, Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA)

Lakin joined SEPA in August 2021 to manage the Utility Transformation Challenge and to provide utility sector decarbonization advisory services for SEPA's member organizations.

Prior to joining SEPA, Lakin spent almost 9 years with The Cadmus Group, most recently as Principal of the Planning and Assessment team where he specialized in demand side management analyses for integrated resource planning for a wide range of utility clients. Before Cadmus, Lakin served as a Senior Planning Project Manager at the Energy Trust of Oregon. Lakin has a Bachelor of Business Administration in International Business from the University of Georgia and a Master of Science in Economics from Portland State University. Lakin lives in Athens, Georgia with his wife and two sons and spends his remaining free time participating in mountain bike endurance racing.