

SESSION 2: ADVANCED DIGITAL AND ANALYTICAL APPLICATIONS FOR UTILITY ASSET MANAGEMENT



Kwawu Mensan Gaba, Energy Global Practice Manager for Western and Central Africa, World Bank

Prior to his current position, Kwawu Mensan Gaba worked as Lead Energy Specialist in the Infrastructure South Asia Energy Group from July 2019 to June 30, 2021 and Global Lead—Power Systems Solutions Group for the Energy and Extractive Industries Global Practice at the World Bank since April 2015 until June 2019.

As the Global Lead, he was responsible, inter alia, for providing technical leadership and quality assurance for a \$16 billion generation, transmission, and distribution portfolio. Prior to that, he managed large hydropower and transmission projects in the South Asia Region. From 2008 to 2010, he was based in New Delhi (India) as the World Bank's Lead Energy Specialist for India. In that capacity, he led the country energy sector dialogue and managed the World Bank's energy program in India (a portfolio of about \$ 3.3 billion) to support a lower carbon growth path for the sector and foster institutional transformation across the entire supply chain. Prior to joining the South Asia Region, he was a Senior Power Engineer in the Africa Region of the World Bank, where he led policy dialogue and worked on complex national and regional energy projects, including several high-risk hydropower projects. From 1999 to 2001, Mr. Gaba worked for Société Générale as the Senior Power Engineer of the Investment Banking Department, where he led the technical due diligence process and formulation of technical risk mitigation strategies for many Independent Power Producer (IPP) transactions in the Middle East, Europe, and the United States. Before joining the World Bank in 1996, he was head of the planning department for the National Electricity Company in Togo. He is recognized as an out-of-the-box thinker who has received accolades for innovative procurement approaches. He is also the recipient of the World Bank FY2011 Innovation Challenge and FY2015 Big Data Innovation Challenge Awards.

Mr. Gaba holds a master's degree in power engineering from the Interafrican Electrical Engineering College (Cote d'Ivoire).



Rahul Kitchlu, Program Leader for Infrastructure Practice Group, World Bank

Rahul, a Canadian national, joined the World Bank through the Young Professionals Program in 2010. Since then, Rahul has led high-level policy dialogue and sector reform programs in complex and transformational settings spanning multiple regions (East Africa, West Africa, and East Asia and Pacific). Rahul has established a strong track record of innovation and excellence in lending and non-lending operations, with particular expertise in developing clean energy transition programs, establishing impactful public-private partnerships, and supporting utility reforms for effective electricity service delivery. Rahul received his academic training from University of New Brunswick, Canada, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA, and Harvard University, USA, and worked in finance, technology, and consulting industries prior to joining the World Bank. Rahul has previously completed a country office assignment in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and is currently based in Hanoi, Vietnam where he lives with his wife and two children.



Van Tien Hung, Energy Expert, World Bank

Mr. Hung holds a Hydropower Engineer Degree, and a Master Degree of Financial and Economics. From 1978 to 1995 he worked as hydropower engineer for the power sector of Vietnam. From 1996 to 2019 he worked for the World Bank as an Energy Specialist in Hanoi Office. Mr. Hung, for about 45 years of his active professional live, he has the privilege to observe and participate in the fast development process of electricity of Vietnam. In 1980, when he joined the Vietnam Electricity Sector, the total installed capacity of the country only 1,779 MW, access to electricity only 5.5%, and the capita consumption only 47.7 kWh/year, in 2020, when he retired these figures were 69,279 MW, 99.3% and 250 kwh/year respectively. During the last period Hung devoted to the rural electrification of Vietnam, the President of Vietnam granted him a Labor Medal for his contribution to the rural electrification of Vietnam.



Seong-Hee Yang, Senior Manager, International Cooperation Team, Korea Electric Power Corporation (KEPCO)

Seong-Hee has worked for KEPCO (Korea Electric Power Corporation) since 2004 and has extensive work experiences over various job fields such as planning, finance, customer management, contract and support for transmission and substation operation sector. Currently, he is actively engaged in connecting with various global utilities and relevant organizations for the development of KEPCO's overseas business and knowledge exchanges.

He is a Bachelor of social science including politics and diplomacy from Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, Korea.



Eng. Abel Didier Tella, Managing Director, Association of Power Utilities of Africa (APUA)

Eng. Abel Didier TELLA, of Beninese nationality, formerly dedicated airline pilot student (1976), is an electrical engineer by training (1983). He holds a Master of Science in electrical engineering, a Specialized Graduate Degree in "Renewable energies, photovoltaic solar option" (1985), a Certificate of Approval of Very High Voltage Line Techniques from EDF (1988), a certificate of mastery of English (1991) and an MBA in management of energy companies (1996).

Eng. Abel Didier TELLA is currently Director General of APUA, the Association of Power Utilities of Africa, formerly known as the Union of Producers, Transporters and Distributors of Electric Power of Africa (UPDEA), which he led as Secretary General from 2008 to 2012.

Before this position, he had worked for 25 years at the Société Béninoise d'Energie Electrique, the Benin national power utility from 1983 to 2008 where he was successively a design engineer, Head of the Studies and Projects Department in Electricity, Regional Director in several regions including the capital city region, and

Commercial and Customer services Director. He carried out several power plants and electrification projects in Benin between 1983 and 1990.

Internationally, Eng. TELLA was a member of the Scientific Council of the Regional Solar Energy Center (CRES), based in Bamako (Mali) from 1986 to 1989 where he participated in the study of the location of the 1st solar energy plant production of photovoltaic panels in Africa, project not carried out due to lack of funding.

Eng. TELLA is a member of the scientific committees of many knowledge communities. In his current position, he has established a solid partnership between APUA and African and International Energy Organizations and Funding Institutions. He led the initiative of the creation of the African Network of Centres of excellence in Electricity, an ongoing project financed with the support of the African Development Bank and the French Development Agency. He speaks, reads, and writes fluently French - English - Spanish - Russian and some Portuguese.