Title: Scaling-Up Private Sector Investments for an Ambitious Energy Transition in Africa

Date: Thursday, 21 March 2019

Time: 8:30 to 10:55

Venue: Main Hall

Status: Open to all participants

Organized by: UNEP DTU Partnership

Support organizations: Climate Resilient Network, IRENA, UN Global Compact, WBCSD, ICC, Slocat

Session 1: Attracting Private Investments into Utility-Scale Project

Investment in large-scale grid connected renewable energy technologies has recently gained momentum across Africa. This session will discuss to what extent the energy sector on the African continent will experience an evolution from negotiated PPA’s to tendering schemes; how this may change the modalities for private developers, (EPC) companies, and finance institutions operating on this market; and what the needs would be in terms of policy and regulation.

Moderator: John Christensen, Director, UNEP DTU Partnership
Speaker 1: Dr. Ivan Nygaard, Chief Scientific Advisor, UNEP DTU Partnership
Speaker 2: Dr. Angela Naneu Churie Kallhauge, Senior Climate Change Specialist, World Bank
Speaker 3: Wisdom Ahiaatku-Togobo, Director, Ghana Ministry of Energy


Private investors are increasingly investing in solar PV and other clean energy solutions for rural off-grid markets. This movement from donor projects to business-driven markets creates new opportunities to leverage private investments for the populations living without access to modern clean energy. In the small-scale mini-grid market (<100kW) we see increasing activity from private businesses who provide power to small rural villages through technologically advanced solar powered mini-grids relying on smart ICT-based metering, monitoring and payment solutions. This session will explore the different approaches and experience regarding policy, implementation and financial partnerships across East and West Africa, from the perspective of increasing private sector investments to enable national priorities in expanding energy access.

Moderator: John Christensen, Director, UNEP DTU Partnership
Speaker 1: Ibrahim Togola, Chairman and Co-Founder, ACCESS
Speaker 2: Mahama Kappiah, Executive Director, ECREE
Speaker 3: Francis Vazhikarambil, CEO, Standard Microfinance Bank (SMB)
Speaker 4: Ms. Alice Kaoudia, Co-Chair, Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC)