

## “Pushing the boundaries for renewable energy”

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 [13:00 to 14:30] – Spain Pavilion (Blue zone)

### Concept Note

Innovation is the engine powering the energy transition and the pace of innovation around the world is accelerating. A multitude of innovation solutions are being trialed and adopted in a wide range of countries for a wide range of applications across energy systems.

The power sector has been leading the way with rapid cost reductions in key renewable energy technologies of solar and wind but the energy transition needs a further acceleration of this growth. Innovation efforts are now broadening to include, among others, the development and deployment of ambitious solutions that create the flexibility needed to integrate high share of variable renewable energy, the coupling of the end-use sectors of transport, buildings and industry, new business models for storage, proactive participation of consumers, etc.

This poses a great challenge ahead for policy makers to help create the right policy framework and financial incentives for ambitious sustainable projects, to invest now and in the next generation of technologies needed for the energy transition and boost growth and competitiveness by empowering private companies (i.e. technologist, service providers, integrators) with a first-mover advantage to become global technology leaders across different integrated sectors. This implies providing the much needed support to innovative low-carbon technologies and business models in all sectors in taking off and reaching the market, to help making the energy transition happen.

The panelists are expected to respond to the following key questions:

- What are the challenges of the sustainable energy transition that you are targeting to overcome?
- What are the main barriers to implement renewable energies-based innovation?
- How could we raise the innovation profile of renewable energies-based solutions within targeted sectors (i.e. transport, buildings and industry)?
- What incentives (finance and others) could we put in place to further promote renewable energies-based solutions?
- What role is expected to play by the citizen/end-user and how he/she can contribute to speeding up this innovation process?
- What can the public administrations, at local, regional and national levels, do to encourage these energy transition and create an enabling framework for cross-cutting innovations?

## Agenda

- 13:00 – **Opening Remarks**  
13:10  
Sara Aagesen.- Adviser of the Minister for the Ecological Transition  
(Twitter: @sarikidk)
- 13:10 – **Panel Discussion**  
14:00  
Moderator:  
Belen Gallego.- CEO & Co-Founder at ATA Insights (Twitter: @Belengallego)
- Panelists:  
Roland Roesch.– Deputy Director IRENA Innovation and Technology Center  
Raquel Ferret – Member of the Governance Board of Batteryplat  
Marsden Hanna - Senior Lead, Global Energy Markets and Policy at Google  
Joan Groizard.- Director General (acting) of the Institute for Diversification and Saving of Energy  
Nacho Bautista – Director General of Fundeen
- 14:00 – **Questions and Answers**  
14:20
- 14:20 – **Closing Remarks**  
14:30 Joan Groizard.- Director General (acting) of the Institute for Diversification and Saving of Energy

### Contact person:

Mr. Hugo Lucas Porta  
[hlucas@idae.es](mailto:hlucas@idae.es)

Ms. Marie Noelle Feillenot  
[mmandree@idae.es](mailto:mmandree@idae.es)

IRENA



**Roland Roesch (Twitter: @IRENA)**

Deputy Director Innovation and Technology Center

He is currently the Deputy Director Innovation and Technology Center, among other projects he is leading the IRENA Renewable Energy Project Development Guideline initiative known as IRENA Project Navigator. He is as well as leading the Innovation work programme of IRENA on Grids and Flexibility for the Power Sector Transformation. Previously, Roland was a Professor for Energy Economics at the University of Applied Science in Darmstadt where he worked for 15 years in the Oil, Gas and Utilities Industry for Shell and E.ON. Roland has solid business experience in energy markets, energy economics and energy strategies, renewable integration management, energy project development and project financing.

Batteryplat



**Raquel Ferret (Twitter: @cicenergigune )**

Member of the Governance Board

Dr. Raquel Ferret performed is PhD in the field of Catalysis for Environmental Applications in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the Basque Country University. In 2007, she moved from research to consultancy sector as Project manager, advising and managing projects for industrial companies in different fields as Biotechnology, Aeronautics and Energy. Later on, in 2008 started working in the energy industrial sector as Innovation Project Coordinator in ZIGOR CORPORACIÓN. She was managing funded and private industrial projects in the field of power electronics, renewables and specially electrical energy storage (as manager of redox flow battery development project). Since November 2016 she works at CIC Energigune as Technology Transfer & R+D project manager. She is a well-known European expert on energy storage.

Google



**Marsden Hanna (Twitter: @google)**

Senior Lead, Global Energy Markets and Policy

Marsden Hanna leads global energy market development initiatives for the Infrastructure Group at Google. His work is focused on developing innovative market structures to help the company meet its goal of powering 100% of its operations from renewable energy. Prior to Google, he was Director of Business Analysis and Strategy at Opower Inc in the Washington, DC metro area. He has previously worked at the U.S. Department of State as a member of the climate change negotiating team, and at the U.S. Department of Energy in the Office of Policy and International Affairs. He holds a Master of Business Administration from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, a Master of Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School at Harvard University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Communication from Northwestern University.

**IDAE**



**Joan Groizard (Twitter: @j\_groizard)**  
Director General (Acting)

He has a BA and Masters' degree in Engineering in Energy and the Environment from the University of Cambridge. He has worked as a renewable energy engineer in the development and operation of wind and solar projects in the UK and France, and as a strategic and technical consultant in low-carbon energy systems. In 2015 he became director-general for Energy and Climate Change at the regional government of the Balearic Islands, where he developed the region's strategy and legislation on climate change and energy transition. Since November 2018 he has been director for renewable energy and electricity markets at IDAE, from the Ministry for the Ecological Transition, where his focus has been on the national integrated energy and climate plan and the development of legislation on self-consumption. Recently the management board of IDAE appointed him as acting Director-General of the institution.

**Fundeen**



**Nacho Bautista (Twitter: @nachobautistas)**  
Director General

Civil and Environmental Engineer with experience in the asset management and due diligence of renewable energy assets. Before founding Fundeen, Nacho worked as an Asset Manager at Blue Tree AM and Vela Energy. In these companies he closed finance for over 570 MW of photovoltaic and wind facilities, in addition to consulting activities and the evaluation of 20 MW for its acquisition. Nowadays he is dedicated to the development of Fundeen, the crowdfunding platform that allows individuals to invest in renewable energy projects. The first and only crowdfunding platform financing only renewable energy projects across Spain.