

WETEX

20 – 22 OCTOBER 2026

RENEWABLES & SUSTAINABILITY SEMINARS AGENDA

Location: Hall 1, Dubai World Trade Centre

Day 1 – Tuesday, 20 October 2026	
ENERGY REALITY CHECK – POLICY, RISK, AND SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION	
11:00 - 11:10	HIGH-LEVEL KEYNOTE ADDRESS The Sovereign Blueprint - De-Risking Energy Security, Capital, and National Infrastructure Speaker: HE. Abdulla Ahmed Balalaa, UAE Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs, Energy & Sustainability
11:00 - 12:00	OPENING BY CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS COUNCIL MENA Executive Dialogue Energy Transition vs. Energy Reality: Are we pricing transition and system risk correctly? An exploration of whether financial markets and policy frameworks are accurately accounting for the real-world costs, grid limitations, and national security trade-offs of transitioning away from fossil fuels. Key Focus Areas: • Transition and physical resilience risk pricing in infrastructure • Asset bankability and evolving regulatory frameworks • True cost of delayed grid upgrades • Energy security vs. decarbonization tension Panelists: • Faisal Ali Rashid, Senior Director - Demand Side Management, Dubai Supreme Council of Energy • Bruce Johnson, Director, Corporate Finance and Treasury, Masdar • Alissa King, General Counsel, Positive Zero • Dr. Waseem Hoeneini, Founder & Managing Partner, WMSJ Moderator: • Racha Moukayed, Independent Adviser
12:00 - 13:00	PANEL DISCUSSION The New Energy Order: Navigating GCC Policy in an Evolving Global Landscape An analysis of how GCC nations balance state sovereignty and domestic energy security with volatile global markets, infrastructure adaptation, and changing geopolitical targets. Key Focus Areas: • National production sovereignty and domestic supply security • Infrastructure resilience and resource diversification • Energy price volatility and risk premium management • Geopolitical impacts on long-term decarbonization targets • Energy security and system transformation benefits Panelists: • Polina Lion, Chief Sustainability Officer, Rosatom • Ayman Ismail, Government & Institutional Relations VP – MEA, Hitachi Energy • Abdulla AlKhemeiri, Chief Operations Officer, EtihadWE • Andrei Vlasov, Group CEO, Fort Group • Leandro Bertoni – Vice President, Power Systems – Middle East & Africa, Schneider Electric Moderator: tbc
13:00 - 13:30	INTERACTIVE SYSTEM MAPPING WORKSHOP Grid Stress Test 2030 – Live Scenario Exercise Objective of the workshop: to stimulate the UAE power system in 2030 under real demand pressure and identify where infrastructure, regulation, and investment must accelerate. Format Overview: • Scene Setting • Stakeholder Mapping • Live Stress Test • Investment & Policy Conclusions Facilitator: • Talal Eskandar, EMEA Executive Director, Reactive Technologies
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch Break
14:30 - 15:30	PANEL DISCUSSION Clean Hydrogen: From Hype to Industrial Use Cases An evaluation of clean hydrogen’s commercial viability, analyzing if electrolyzer economics and pipeline logistics can transition it from a theoretical solution to a practical reality for heavy industry and exports considering recent regional tensions. Key Focus Areas: • Industrial hydrogen demand • Export realism • Electrolyzer economics • Pipeline feasibility Panelists: • Khaled Lakkis, Senior Business Advisor, John Cockerill • Dr. Sgouris Sgouridis, Director - Research Programs, DEWA Moderator: • Iwan Walters, Partner, Stephenson Harwood LLP
15:30 - 15:50	PRESENTATION TBC Speaker: tbc
15:50 - 16:50	PANEL DISCUSSION Policy Deep Dive: UAE Climate Change Federal Law - Compliance, Capital and Consequences A strategic look at how the passing of the May 2026 full-compliance deadline transforms UAE climate risk from a voluntary ESG initiative into a legally binding corporate liability, rewriting the rules for green finance, private sector exposure, and value chain accountability. Key Focus Areas: • Corporate accountability and enforcement • Scope 3 implications • Private sector exposure Panelists: • Ahmed Elbermbali, Director of Sustainability, Middle East, Caspian Sea and Africa Region, Bureau Veritas • Eftal Efecinar, Head of Partnerships, Coral • Asmaa Elgedawy, Corporate Environmental and Sustainability Lead, Future Pipe Industries Moderator: tbc
17:00	Seminar Concludes

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Day 2 – Wednesday, 21 October 2026	
THE 50°C CITY: URBAN RESILIENCE, WELLNESS, AND COMPLIANCE	
10:00 - 10:45	OPENING BY CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS COUNCIL MENA Executive Panel Digital Architecture for the 50°C Benchmark – Designing the Smart, Resilient Cities of Tomorrow Regional leaders discuss how connected buildings and intelligent urban design can create comfortable and highly efficient cities, setting a new global standard for living and thriving in a warmer world. Key Focus Areas: • The Smart City Vision • Intelligent Buildings; Smart tech, IoT, and automated cooling • Cutting-edge Technology Blended with Sustainable Design Panelists: • Amel Chadli, President - Gulf Cluster, Schneider Electric Moderator: • tbc
10:45 - 11:00	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION Nature, Biodiversity, and the Climate Science - Foundations for a Changing World Speaker: • Dr. Habiba AlMar’ashi, Founder & Chairperson, Emirates Environmental Group
11:00 - 11:15	FILM INTERVENTION & TALK Engineering Resilience for the 50°C Reality A short cinematic showcase followed by a brief commentary exploring how cities can reconcile human wellness with extreme climate benchmarks and the evolving global compliance landscape. Speaker: • Dima Al Sroui, Founder & CEO, MycoSphere
11:15 - 12:15	PANEL DISCUSSION Designing for 50°C: Cooling, Materials & Urban Form An exploration of how extreme desert heat forces a shift from power-hungry mechanical cooling to passive architecture, heat-reflective materials, and advanced district cooling systems to keep future cities livable. Key Focus Areas: • Urban heat island mitigation • Shading and passive cooling • Solar-integrated architecture • District cooling innovation Panelists: • Dorian Bomble, Director of Marketing, Saint-Gobain • Antonio Di Cecca, COO, Tabreed Moderator: tbc
12:15 - 13:15	PANEL DISCUSSION Human-Centric Cities, Indoor Air Quality & Beyond Workplace Wellness Key Focus Areas: • Quantifying the ROI of indoor air quality, thermal comfort, and occupant well-being • Elevating the “S” in ESG beyond carbon-centric reporting • Moving from basic wellness perks to climate-resilient, health-first built environments Panelists: • Vitalii Matiunin, Co-Founder and CEO, Airvoice • Abdullatif Albitawi, Director, Emirates Green Building Council • Dr. Hassan Ali, Associate Professor, University of Birmingham Dubai • Sabine Ghosn, Environmental Sustainability Manager, Enova Moderator: • Nour Mezher, Senior Manager of Strategy & Programmes, Frontier25
13:15 - 14:15	Lunch Break
14:15 - 14:45	INTERACTIVE SESSION/WORKSHOP Managing Climate Risk in a 50°C World: What It Means for Business, Data and Climate Compliance Speaker: • Jessica Scopacasa, Co-Founder & CMO, Olive Gaea
14:45 - 15:45	PANEL DISCUSSION From Food Waste to Fuel: Biofuels and SAF in the UAE An evaluation of how the UAE is leveraging its circular economy policies and regional aviation hub status to turn domestic food waste and municipal biomass into a commercial supply chain for sustainable aviation fuel and biofuels. Key Focus Areas: •Waste-to-fuel commercial viability • Feedstock security & supply chains • Infrastructure readiness & blending realities • Regulatory catalysts Panelists: • H.E. Maher Al Kaabi, MD, Blue Biofuels • Dr. Haythem Riahi, CEO, Circa Biotech • Adetayo Martins, Senior Specialist, Business Management, ADNOC • Ruhiye Keskin, Director, Infrastructure and Business Development, Advario Moderator: • tbc
15:45 - 16:45	PANEL DISCUSSION Investor Dialogue - Are sustainable cities investable, or just marketable? A candid financial assessment of whether green real estate developments yield genuine risk-adjusted returns and valuation premiums, or if they are simply over-priced marketing assets, to uncover the true cost and returns of building for a 50°C world. Key Focus Areas: •Valuation & Premium Reality • Capex vs. Long-term Savings • Climate Risk & Asset Protection • Access to Green Capital • Marketing vs. Genuine ROI Panelists: • Vijay Bains, Group Chief Sustainability Officer, Emirates NBD • Jennifer Chammas, Managing Director and the Regional Head of Sustainable Finance and Transition, HSBC Moderator: • Gurmeet Kaur, Partner, Pinsent Masons
16:45	Seminar Concludes

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Day 3 – Thursday, 22 October 2026	
DECARBONIZING AT SCALE: CLEAN POWER, INFRASTRUCTURE LOOPS, AND HUMAN CAPITAL	
10:00 - 10:30	INTRODUCTION BY CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS COUNCIL MENA Keynote Presentation Integrating Non-Baseload Renewables into a Stable Grid Speaker: • Naji Al Messabi, Executive Vice President of Power System Operations, EWEC
10:30 - 11:30	PANEL DISCUSSION Scaling EV Infrastructure Without Breaking the Grid An analysis of how public-private partnerships and managed charging services can accelerate heavy fleet electrification using localized renewable energy loops, preventing localized grid overloads. Speaker: • Fleet electrification • Charging as a Service • Renewable-powered charging hubs • PPP models Panelists: • Rajeev Roy - SVP, Power Future Grid, TAQA Distribution • Majid Al Hazami, Director Smart Grid PMO, DEWA • Roberto Colucci, Director, Electric Vehicles (ZEEKR and Smart), AW Rostamani Group • Thanveer Musthafa, Director, Pactive • Maneesha Bhatnagar, Head of ESG, Consultancy and Innovation, LeasePlan Emirates Moderator: Heiko Seitz, Partner, Strategy &
10:30 - 11:30	PANEL DISCUSSION Profit and Purpose – Solar as an Economic Shield and Sustainability Mandate A targeted panel analyzing how modern solar adoption satisfies both immediate bottom-line financial demands and long-term corporate sustainability goals. Key Focus Areas: • Mitigating financial risks and energy price volatility through clean energy assets • Moving from symbolic sustainability commitments to hard-asset infrastructure investments • Bridging the capital gap by aligning CFO yield requirements with corporate decarbonization goals Panelists: • Yuxi Zhang, Regional Sales Manager, PV Hardware • René Matthies, Chief Financial Officer, EWEC • Ghanim Alqassim, Senior Manager - Solar Energy, DEWA Moderator: Avanthika Satheesh, Director - Consulting, Customized Energy Solutions, CES
12:30 - 12:50	PRESENTATION Frictionless Decarbonization: How ‘As-a-Service’ Models Simplify the Transition. A Case Study for Accelerating Energy Transition in Hospitality and SMEs Speaker: • Hugo Domingues, General Manager, Enernouva
13:10 - 13:50	FIRESIDE CHAT Industrial Circularity: Heavy Industry Decarbonization & Closed-Loop Manufacturing Examining how MENA's industrial leaders and waste management authorities are working to build resilient, closed-loop ecosystems. Moving beyond single-industry recycling, this session explores how heavy manufacturing, scrap utilization, and municipal-industrial waste integration drive regional decarbonization, lower landfill diversion metrics, and create commercial value from resource recovery. Key Focus Areas: • Turning Waste into Resources • Cross-Industry Collaboration • Scaling Local Recycling • Infrastructure & Policy Alignment Panelists: Moderator: • tbc
13:50 - 14:50	PANEL DISCUSSION Reskilling the Energy Workforce: AI, Automation, and a Just Transition Examining how the energy sector can leverage AI and automation to modernize operations while ensuring an equitable, inclusive workforce transformation that aligns youth education with digital industry needs. Key Focus Areas: • Operationalizing a just transition across sectors • AI integration and workforce automation without social displacement • Aligning STEM, youth education, and vocational training with future energy jobs • Upskilling, re-skilling, and retention strategies for legacy workers Panelists: • Haya Abu Laila, Manager, Human Resources, TAQA • Brijesh Dhruve, Manager – Climate Change and Sustainability, ENOC • Sara Waheed, Senior Manager – Emiratization, People & Culture, Al Ghurair Group • Alyazyah Almarzooqi, Digitization & Analytics Manager, Curator of Global Shapers Dubai Moderator: tbc
15:00	Renewables & Sustainability Seminars 2026 Concludes

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