



s-@ccess

Solar Technologies & Hybrid Mini
Grids to improve energy access
5th International Conference

Chair message - first announcement of the S- @ccess Conference!!

On behalf of the Partner Organizations, we are pleased to announce and invite you to join the **5th edition of the International Conference on Solar Technologies and Hybrid Mini-Grids to improve energy access**, at the Universitat de les Illes Balears in Palma, Spain on September 4-6, 2024.

The 4th edition was successfully held in 2023, again in a 100% face-to-face format. It was a real pleasure to meet again with 136 attendees that were on site, with 90 presentations and 2 interactive side-events. This 5th edition is going to consolidate the S-@ccess conference as an outstanding meeting forum for networking and knowledge exchange, offering a balanced mix of lectures, practitioner workshops and round tables.

Solar technologies and other decentralized renewable energy technologies offer a unique opportunity to provide access to modern energy services to more than 1 billion people lacking access to energy in rural areas worldwide. Access to modern energy is an enabler and a necessity condition to improve the livelihood of households, to increase productivity of micro and small enterprises, to improve services of public institutions, and to provide crisis response to displaced communities.

To achieve maximum impact, access to energy should be imbedded in cross-sectoral activities. Thus, energizing health centres and schools will lead to better medical services and education if energy efficient appliances are included and proper



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management schemes in place. Access to clean cooking technologies and habits will lead to improved livelihoods and reduced health hazards. Local enterprises can invest in electrical equipment if they have access to finance and markets. Mini-grids can transform communities if the potential of energy access is enhanced. It is the intention of the conference to discuss the nexuses of energy access with other sectors more in depth providing a forum to exchange hands-on experiences and innovative approaches, with a focus on the end users and how to catalyse uses of energy to impact the sustainable development goals.

The conference will provide an overview on the status in different technology areas and provide a space for exchange between participants, presenting their results from scientific research and experiences from the field.

As in previous editions, the main objective is to provide an opportunity for an exchange between practitioners from the industry, academia, developers and investors, working in the field of decentralized energy access and local development. The conference will cover hands-on technical, social, and environmental considerations, and business and management aspects with the aim of sharing experiences, learning from each other, and networking.

We as chairs would be pleased to welcome you to the conference and encourage you to actively contribute to a successful event.

Werner Weiss, AEE-INTEC, Austria
TecnoAmbiental, Spain

Xavier Vallvé, Trama