



## Speakers & Moderators Biodata

## Costis Stambolis, Chairman and Executive Director, IENE, Greece



Mr. Costis Stambolis who is the current Chairman and Executive Director of IENE, has a background in Physics and Architecture having studied at the University of London, and the Architectural Association in London from where he holds a Graduate Diploma in Architecture and Energy Studies (AA Dip. Grad). He also holds a professional practice license from the Technical Chamber of Greece (TEE), and a Masters Degree from the Said Business School, University of Oxford, where he studied "Strategy and Innovation".

Costis has carried out numerous studies and projects on Renewable Energy Sources in developing countries. He has consulted widely on solar building applications for both private and institutional clients in various European countries. He has worked as a consultant and strategy advisor on natural gas, oil markets and energy security issues for large multinational companies, international organizations and governments.

Costis has lectured widely on energy issues and has organised several national, regional and international conferences, seminars and workshops. He has published several books, conference proceedings, research papers and studies on energy policy, solar energy, RES and energy markets. Among others he is the editor of the "S.E. Europe Energy Outlook (2011,2017, 2022)", which is considered a basic reference on energy for SE Europe.

Since 2001 he supervises and edits Greece's foremost energy site [www.energia.gr](http://www.energia.gr) and he is a founding partner of the Institute of Energy for South East Europe (IENE). He is a member of the Energy Institute (UK), the International Passive House Association (IPHA), The Technical Chamber of Greece (TEE). Since 2018 he also serves as a full member of the Greek government's standing committee on Energy and Climate Change (NECP).

**Mr. Shkelqim Bozgo, Managing Partner, SEA Consulting, Albania**



Education

- Petroleum Engineer graduated from l'Institute Algerien du Petrole and Master in Bussines Administration graduated from the University of Tirana and Lincoln, Nebraska

Experience

- Senior Executive with long experience managing large and medium size commercial, public and non for profit projects and organizations. Country Manager for Albania of the mega project Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) 2013-2017.
- Co-author of the Final Joint Opinion, the joint project of the Greek, Italian and Albanian energy regulators for awarding the third party access exemption to TAP.
- Author of several regulatory acts for the Albanian natural gas sector and familiarity with the energy and natural gas sector in the Energy Community. President of the Energy Community Regulatory Board (March 2012 – November 2013).
- Rich experience in the area of stakeholder management, sustainable development, poverty reduction, renewable and energy efficiency projects. Shkelqim lead CAFOD Albania (9years) and the Albania EU Energy Efficiency Centre (2 years).

**Prof. Stavri Dhima, Independent Energy Risk Assessment Consultant, Climate Expert, Albania**



Stavri Dhima Ph.D., Associate Professor, is a Freelance Senior Energy Expert, with an wide and deep experience and knowledge in several Albanian energy sectors, as well, with a very long and successful experience in scientific and administrative engagement on petroleum activities/projects and particularly on the gas sector. From 1999 up to the end of 2019, when he retired, he has been engaged on several positions in the high administration of the Albanian Ministry responsible for Energy and Infrastructure, as General Director of the General Petroleum Directorate, and as well as Head of Sector for energy policies and projects on energy sector, mainly in the oil and gas activities.

During the time that he has been engaged on several position in the high administration, he gave a distinguished contribution on the completion of the legal and institutional framework for the Albanian petroleum and energy sectors through the transposition of the European legal and institutional framework, and for the preparation of the strategic documents for the developing of the energy sector in Albania, especially for the energy infrastructure. His research and work areas on scientific and technical studies are: studies for petroleum exploration, studies on the management, administration and operation of Petroleum and Energy Sector, national and regional projects on petroleum and energy infrastructure, etc.

### **H.E. Konstantina Kamitsi, Ambassador of Greece in Albania, Embassy of Greece in Albania**



The Ambassador of Greece to Albania Mrs Konstantina KAMITSI has graduated from the Faculty of Law - Political Sciences Section of the University of Athens. She entered the Diplomatic Academy of the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1995. Initially, she served at the Protocol Department, as well as at the Balkan Affairs Department (Desk for Albania, Bulgaria, and Romania). Her first posting was in the Embassy of Greece in Belgrade. Later on, she served at the Permanent Representation of Greece in Brussels and for the 2003 Greek Presidency of the Council of the EU. After returning to Athens, she worked as diplomatic liaison at the Ministry of Defense, as Director for financial and administrative issues at the International Development Cooperation Department of the Foreign Ministry, as well as in the Diplomatic Cabinet of the Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic Diplomacy. Then, she was posted in the Greek Embassy in Ankara, Turkey, and at the Permanent Representation of Greece to the UN, as delegate responsible for the UN Second Committee.

Afterwards, she held several important positions in Athens, in particular Deputy Director for Schengen and Home and Justice Affairs Directorate, Chair of the JAEX Working Group during the 2014 Hellenic Presidency of the Council of the EU, Head of Political Director's Office, and Foreign Ministry's Member of the Greek Team responsible for the implementation of the Measures of Confidence with the Republic of North Macedonia. She was appointed as Deputy Head of Mission of the Greek Embassy in Helsinki, Finland. Subsequently, she worked for the Foreign Ministry's C1 Department for European External Relations, as Deputy and later on, as its Director. Mrs. Kamitsi was appointed Ambassador of Greece to Albania in November 2022.

**Denald George Tafani, Executive Director, PPC Albania Sh.A and President of Hellenic Business Association of Albania**



Denald Tafani is the Executive Director of PPC Albania Sh.A. since February 2022.

He has been part of PPC Albania Sh.A since 2017 and has been able to progress through diverse leadership roles in the legal and administrative management of the company.

Mr. Tafani has managed multiple projects in Albania and the Western Balkans. He has extensive background in energy projects, wholesale trading of electrical energy, market monitoring, foreign trade policy, business strategy and negotiations. He has comprehensive knowledge of current research and trends in the field of energy and sustainable development.

Further, with several years of experience at the Economic and Commercial Affairs of the Embassy of Greece in Tirana, he has been adept in evaluating foreign economy-based agreements, collaborating with all key stakeholders and building strong partnerships.

Since February 2021, Mr. Tafani has been elected Member of the BoD of the Hellenic Business Association of Albania. He is a member of the Albanian Bar Association from 2018 and speaks fluent Greek, Albanian and English. He has earned a MSc Degree in Law, in Tirana, Albania, and is a PhD Candidate at the University of Bolton, UK.

**Fatjon Zekaj, Head of Long Term Planning Sector, Directory of Transmission Network Planning and Development, OST Sh.A, Albania**



With a robust 14-year trajectory in the power systems sector, I stand as a seasoned Electrical Engineer, proficient in the intricate arts of planning, design, and loss calculation. My expertise extends to the adept use of industry-standard software such as ETAP, PSSE, ONELINER, and PowerFactory, enabling me to conduct comprehensive simulations, analyses, and optimizations of power networks. My acumen in assessing the impact of renewable energy source integration is matched by my capability to execute cost-benefit analyses, prioritize projects, and conduct thorough risk assessments.

My professional journey is marked by leadership roles, including heading the Long Term Planning Sector at OST sh.a, and spearheading the High Voltage Network Loss Calculations at OSHEE Albanian Distribution Company. These positions

have honed my skills in applying different standards and rules to ensure the safety and reliability of power projects.

Educationally, I am fortified with a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Tirana, complementing my Bachelor's degree from the same esteemed institution. This academic foundation has been the bedrock upon which my professional accomplishments stand, driven by an unwavering commitment to excellence, proactive problem-solving, and adept project management. As I present myself, I bring not only a wealth of experience but also a forward-thinking approach to the evolving landscape of electrical engineering.

**Kostantinos Tsirekis, Director of Strategy and System Planning, IPTO – Independent Power, Greece**



Konstantinos Tsirekis was born in Thessaloniki, Greece in May 1969. He received the Electrical Engineering and Doctor of Engineering degrees from the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), Greece, in 1994 and 2004, respectively. From 1995 to 2000 he worked as Project Engineer, being responsible for the design, cost accounting, implementation, and on-site supervision of the electrical part of numerous private and public turn-key projects. In 2001, he joined the Transmission System Operator of Greece (IPTO), being responsible for the composition of the 10-year network development plan. From 2018 till 2022 he was Director of the New Projects Department of IPTO, being responsible for the construction of new overhead, underground, and submarine transmission lines and extra-high-voltage substations. He is currently Director of the Strategy and System Planning Department of IPTO, with a key mission of the design and planning of the electrical interconnections of non-interconnected islands, international interconnections as well as the necessary infrastructures that will allow the increased penetration of Renewable Energy Sources into the country's electrical system.

For over two decades he had been a part-time lecturer at the Technological Educational Institutes of Athens and Piraeus, participating in several graduate and postgraduate programs. He is a member of the System Development Committee of the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E), of the Conference Internationale des Grands Reseaux Electriques a Haute Tension (CIGRE) and the Technical Chamber of Greece.

**Mr. Sokol Dishnica, Chief Executive Officer, Albanian Power Exchange (ALPEX), Albania**



Mr. Sokol Dishnica, is the Chief Executive Officer of ALPEX, the Albanian Power Exchange Operator. Sokol has a vast experience in the energy and banking sectors. Before joining ALPEX, he worked for the Transmission System Operator as well as for international banks operating in Albania, holding various senior positions. Sokol graduated at the Tirana Polytechnic University on mechanical engineering (BSc and MSc) in 1994, and at the University of Tirana, Faculty of Economics on finance (BSc) in 2003. He holds a Certified Public Accountant Certificate issued by the Albanian Institute of Chartered Accountants. Sokol also sits as a board member at the SEE CAO - Coordinated Auction Office in South East Europe - an organization founded by transmission system operators from South East Europe countries.

**George Lantzas, CEO, PPC Albania Sh.A, Albania**

Georgios Lantzas has more than 30 years of post graduate experience combined engineering and managerial practice in Europe, Balkan area, ex CIS countries, Africa and GCC Region.



He is certified Project Manager by PMI with solid experience in technical, business development, social and commercial projects.

Georgios has a vast experience in energy projects: electricity trade, business acquisition, execution of energy projects, formulation of energy policy, etc.

**Abaz Aliko, Principal Consultant and Founding Member, SEA Consulting, Albania**



Abaz Aliko is a founding member of SEA Consulting. Mr. Aliko has a rich experience in economy, management and leadership. He has also a strong background in academic field.

*His technical skills and competences include:*

- Leadership and team management gained from the various work experiences including Commissioner at ERE, Director at central Tax Authority, member of high

local government bodies, lecturer of a few universities as well as freelance financial and business consultant. Long term vision, openness to team work, mutual respect and objective performance assessment create the right environment for a motivated and highly performing team.

- Competence in decision-making gained and developed from long-term work in decision-making positions including the Energy Regulatory Entity, the General Directorate of Taxes, local authorities etc. Deep understanding of the situation and assessment of different alternatives have the highest chances to success.
- Qualified auditor in financial affairs earned as a financial business consultant, at universities, as well as customs auditing inspector and tax supervisor which has always been praised from clients and students.
- Extensive knowledge on energy sector regulatory policy and practice gained by more than 10 years of experience as a member of the ERE board which in some cases was associated with very challenging decisions, as well as close co-operation and training with the regulatory authorities of the region, Europe and the United States, including the Energy Community Secretariat, the Energy Regulators Regional Association (ERRA), the Mediterranean Energy Regulators Association (MEDREG), the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID ) of the United States of America.

Contribution in some of the main acts reviewed and approved by the Board include:

- Primary responsibility on pricing and tariff methodologies and their practical implementation. Calculation and deciding upon the allowed expenses for the tariffs of the regulated companies in the energy sector.
  - Investment plans of regulated companies
  - Market model of the electricity sector
  - Market rules, network codes and connections to the grid
  - Capacity allocation Different contracts for different market participants.
  - Review and development of Power Sector acts including natural gas and renewables
  - Support schemes for renewables
  - Approval of the long term and yearly investment plans.
  - Analysis of long term developments in the sector and possible options.
- In-depth knowledge of the electricity sector and the natural gas sector: organization of these industries, their product markets, licensing, contracts, tariffs and prices. Active participation in the drafting and adoption of secondary legislation.
  - Deep knowledge of renewable energies: their product markets, licensing, contracts, support schemes for tariffs and prices. Active participation in the drafting and adoption of secondary legislation.



- Deep knowledge of taxes, duties and customs: their primary and secondary legislation, declarations and payments, exemptions and penalties, etc., gained by the intensive study of the theory of teaching for two decades at university and the practice of long in customs, taxes and as an independent consultant.
- Negotiation skills acquired especially from participation in negotiation group of the shares purchase agreement of the Operator of the Albanian Distribution System of Electricity (OSSH sha) to CEZ A.S.

Mr. Aliko was born in Gjirokastra, Albania. He has a Ph.D. in economics and agriculture policy by Agriculture University of Tirana.

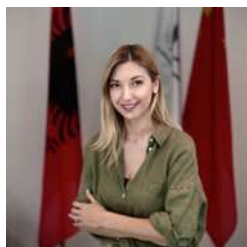
### **Ilia Gjermani, Director of the Development Programmes in the area of Hydrocarbons, Albania**



I am Ilia Germani, a geophysicist by profession, specializing in the field of oil and gas exploration. I currently hold the position of the Director of the Directorate of Development Programs in the Hydrocarbon Field under the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy. I graduated from the University of Tirana, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Department of Physics, as well as from the Faculty of Geology and Mining, Department of Geophysics. I have completed my in-depth studies and graduated with a Master's degree in the field of Geological Engineering.

My professional career has been related only to the exploration and production of hydrocarbons in its different stages, starting from the practical implementation of projects for seismic works for the search and production of hydrocarbons in Albania and in several countries of the world, being employed by the former Albanian Geophysical company "Albseis" and from the American Western Geophysical company to the until participating in geologic geophysical depth studies. Then I was Head of the technical department of Albseis. I worked for a period of more than two years as the head of the development program department of Servcom company. From 2002 until today, I have been employed by the Ministry responsible for Energy in the Republic of Albania in various positions. From 2016 to the present, I am the Director of the Directorate of Development Programs in the Hydrocarbon Field, which is responsible for drafting policies and strategies for the development of the hydrocarbon industry in Albania.

**Ledina (Strati) Shuaipi, Reservoir Engineer, Bankers Petroleum Albania Ltd.**



My name is Ledina (Strati) Shuaipi. I hold a MSc. degree in Engineering Geology and Hydrogeology and a Bachelor of Earth Science from Geology and Mines Faculty, UPT.

I have a 13 years' experience in Oil and Gas Industry and currently hold the title of Reservoir Engineer at Bankers Petroleum Albania Ltd., also a Lecturer in Petroleum Engineering at Geology and Mines Faculty.

My areas of expertise include contracts, internal audit and petroleum engineering in the energy sector.

**Costas Theofylaktos, Chairman of Energy Efficiency Committee and Secretary-General, IENE, Greece**



Is a USA trained Mechanical Engineer with an MSc from the University of Evansville, Indiana, and has 25 years experience in the energy sector. Constantinos's special interests includes cogeneration and RES and was for many years chairman of Greece's Cogeneration Association and also member of the executive council of COGEN Europe. He has served as chairman and CEO of

the Athens based Centre of Renewable Energy Sources (CRES).

**Claire Schamps, Lead the development of Voltalia's Albania renewable energy portfolio, Voltalia, Albania**



*Education and Training*

[ 12/09/2010 – 13/09/2012] Master in Business Engineering (Specialization in Innovation and Environment) Université Catholique de Louvain Final grade: Magna Cum Laude

[16/09/2007 – 11/09/2010] Bachelor in Business Engineering Université Catholique de Louvain Final grade: Cum Laude

*Work Experience*

Development Manager, Voltalia, Country: Albania Lead the development of Voltalia's Albania renewable energy portfolio. Manage the development team (5 international and national team members).

Identify and evaluate new projects and opportunities for solar, wind, storage, and hybrid technologies. Establish regular and effective communication channels with key industry players. Develop and monitor planning and budget portfolio. Represent the company towards stakeholders.

Secure business opportunities toward the company's objectives, investment guidelines, and budget. Coordinate leads and projects from the Development team and manage the reporting. Work with the internal and external stakeholders in all the technical, legal, and commercial activities necessary for the success of the projects namely technical development, negotiations, and due diligence. Maintain and promote the values, strength, and reputation of the company.

**Anita Shushku, Chairman, Albanian Renewable Energy Association (AREA), Albania**



An experienced Civil Engineer, major in hydro technology, with a master degree in Engineering Management from Auckland University, NZ.

More than 30 years of experience in management of international funded engineering projects, including hydropower plants development and operation, with an enthusiastic leadership to success, problem solver, desire and ability to include innovation techniques and materials during project implementation.

From 2015, is Chairman of the Executive Board Albanian Renewable Energy Association (AREA), an organization that promote investments on renewable energy and protects the rights of renewable energy producers with the main objective to improve technical and legal conditions for investors and producers in Albania, in coherence with EU policy.

**Gjergji Gjinko, President of the Board, "Friends of Korca" Association, Albania**



Gjergji Gjinko holds an honors degree in Life Sciences from the University of Tirana. His professional journey began as a university researcher and lecturer in Biology and Genetics at Korça University.

In the early 1990s, Gjinko transitioned to local politics, serving as Secretary of the Regional Pluralist Council and

subsequently as Mayor of Korça municipality (1992-96), elected in the first free local elections.

With over 16 years of engagement in the civil society sector, he has collaborated with several non-profit organizations, managing projects focused on education, decentralization and local governance, sustainable development, advocacy for renewable energy, and the development of the green economy in Albania.

Since 2016, he has led the "Friends of Korça" Association, a group of dedicated friends and experts working towards solutions in environmental protection, climate change, ecotourism, and promoting solar energy as a solution to reduce the use of firewood and mitigate deforestation in Korca region and behind.

### **Klevisa Pjetri, M.S., B.S., Environmental Engineer, Albania**



#### *EDUKIMI DHE TRAJNIME EDUCATION AND TRAINING*

Nëntor 2021 – Korrik 2023 MSC në Inxhinieri Mjedisi, Profili Energjistikë Universiteti Politeknik i Tiranës, Tiranë, Shqipëri Përfunduar studimet Master Shkencor në Fakultetin e Inxhinierisë së Ndërtimit, dega Inxhinieri Mjedisi, profili Energjetikë. Marrja e këtyre njohurive më zgjoi interesin për lëndët që lidhen me shkencën dhe energjinë. Tema e diplomimit: “Projektimi i sistemit fotovoltaiik rrjet-lidhur për vetëkonsum”.

Tetor 2018 – Shtator 2021 BSC në Inxhinieri Mjedisi Universiteti Politeknik i Tiranës, Tiranë, Shqipëri Përfunduar studimet Bachelor në Fakultetin e Inxhinierisë së Ndërtimit, dega Inxhinieri Mjedisi. Tema e diplomimit: “Studimi i cilësisë së gjendjes aktuale të rrjedhës së poshtme të lumit Drin”.

Shtator 2015 - Korrik 2018 Diplome Maturie shkollë e mesme e përgjithshme “Hydajet Lezha” Përfunduar studimet në gjimnazin "Hydajet Lezha" për një periudhë 3-vjeçare. Diplomuar me mesatare 9 në shkollën e mesme dhe një mesatare 8.5 në provime.

#### *WORKING EXPERIENCE*

Janar 2023 – Aktualisht Eksperiencë 1-vjeçare në pozicionin Inxhinierë Mjedisi (Environmental Engineer) Pranë kompanisë SOLARON sh.p.k. – Projektim dhe Implementim i Projekteve Fotovoltaike

- Eksperiencë pune si Inxhinieri Mjedisi pranë SOLARON sh.p.k, e cila ofron kërkime, projektme, zbatime, të impianteve fotovoltaike të reja dhe ekzistuese.
- Draft i projektimit të projekteve fotovoltaike në AutoCAD.
- Përgatitja dhe zhvillimi i formularëve dhe raporteve standarde në lidhje me projektimin e impiantit FV.
- Krijim dhe mirëmbajtje e konfigurimeve të inverterave në platformën e monitorimit online.
- Hartimi i planit të rehabilitimit të impianteve PV të shkallës së shërbimeve.
- Aftësia për të përshtatur shpejt terminologjinë teknike specifike.
- Aftësi për të mësuar dhe interpretuar zhvillimet e fundit në aplikimin e industrisë fotovoltaike në lidhje me mjedisin, nga gjuhë të tjera.
- Përmirësimi i aftësive të komunikimit në vendin e punës dhe menaxhim efikas i rrjedhës së punës.

#### Dean Sinanaj, Head of Sales, SOLARON sh.p.k., Albania



#### **EXPERIENCE**

02/2024 – Present. Sales Representative, Solaron Shpk – Tirana, Albania

- Mastered sales strategies to drive significant revenue growth.
- Developed skills in fostering strong, long-term client relationships.

02/2023 – 06/2023 Coordinator Assistant, Univers Reklama – Tirana, Albania

- Assisted clients with updates and addressed inquiries for satisfaction.

- Handled duties like scheduling and document upkeep.

07/2022 – 10/2022 Assistant in the Department of Production, Univers Reklama – Tirana, Albania

- Engaged in physical aspects of production, such as assembly, fabrication and finishing

- Maintained organized production products and documents.

12/2019 – 06/2020 Polyvalent Worker, Cojean – Paris, France

- Efficiently managed cash transaction and providing excellent customer service

- Ensured a clean and inviting environment for customers

#### **EDUCATION**

2021 - Present Bachelor's degree in Business & Administration, University of New York Tirana

2019 - 2020 Linguistic / Gap year, France Langue Paris, France

2016 - 2019 High School's degree, Petro Nini Luarasi, Tirana, Albania