

## International development and renewable energy access through academic and industrial collaboration

Tuesday 24 March, 12-4.30pm  
Conference Aston, Aston University, Birmingham, UK

*“Energy is central to nearly every major challenge and opportunity the world faces today. Be it for jobs, security, climate change, food production or increasing incomes, access to energy for all is essential. Working towards this goal is especially important as it interlinks with other Sustainable Development Goals. Focusing on universal access to energy, increased energy efficiency and the increased use of renewable energy through new economic and job opportunities is crucial to creating more sustainable and inclusive communities and resilience to environmental issues like climate change.”*

UN Sustainable Development Goals

Join us for a workshop to discuss the key role of academia and industry in supporting international development through renewable energy access. We will hear from project leaders who are pioneering new technologies across the world, from policymakers and funders on their aims and priorities, and from each other on what makes a successful project.

This workshop is organised by the [Supergen Bioenergy Hub](#) and is part of the Innovate UK Energy Catalyst project Rice Straw to Biogas (R2B). The R2B project installed and continues to develop a first-of-its-kind pilot biogas facility in Laguna, Philippines to provide a practical solution for rice straw management and renewable energy access.

Places at this event are limited, so [please register via Eventbrite](#).

### Agenda

| Time          | Activity  | Speaker                                  |
|---------------|---|--|
| 12:00 – 13:00 | Lunch and networking  |  |
|               | <b>Session 1</b>  |  |
| 13:00 - 13:10 | Welcome   | Mirjam Röder (Aston University)          |
| 13:10 – 13:25 | Rice Straw to Biogas (R2B) project                                    | Craig Jamieson (Straw Innovation)        |
| 13:25 – 13:40 | Anaerobic digestion of rice straw                                     | Sonia Heaven (University of Southampton) |
| 13:40 – 13:55 | Biogas technology innovation  | Jo Clayton (Qube Renewables)             |
| 13:55 – 14:10 | Sustainability assessment of bioenergy deployment in the Global South | Mirjam Röder (Aston University)          |
| 14:10 – 14:20 | Research at EBRI and Supergen Bioenergy Hub                           | Patricia Thornley (Aston University)     |



[www.supergen-bioenergy.net](http://www.supergen-bioenergy.net)

|               |  |   |
|---------------|--|---|
| 14:20 – 14:30 | Industry engagement at EBRI and Aston University             | Tim Miller (Aston University)   |
| 14:30 – 15:00 | Coffee and networking  |   |
|               | <b>Session 2</b>   |   |
| 15:00 – 15:15 | UK energy transition and bioenergy in development programmes | Alessandro Moscuza (Department for International Development)   |
| 15:15 – 15:25 | Funding opportunities for academia-industry collaborations   | Ebela Howell (Innovate UK)  |
|               | <b>Industry case studies</b>                                 |   |
| 15:25 – 15:35 | Energy Harvest   | Robert Berry (Energy Harvest)   |
| 15:35 – 15:45 | Kew Technology   | Amna Bezanty/Mark Johnson (Kew Technology)  |
| 15:45 – 15:55 | PyroGenesys  | Simon Ighofose (PyroGenesys)  |
| 15:55 – 16:25 | Panel discussion   | Speakers: Alessandro Moscuza, Sonia Heaven, Mirjam Röder, Jo Clayton, Craig Jamieson, Amna Bezanty)<br><br>Chair: Patricia Thornley |
| 16:25 – 16:30 | Close  |   |