

PROGRAM AGENDA

**Clean Energy, Climate and the Built Environment:
Ensuring a Healthy, Just & Sustainable Future for All**

An interactive workshop featuring global, national and regional experts examining decarbonization strategies for all aspects of the built environment.

September 21, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
@ Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens

Invitation Only
Reception to Follow



Partners:



- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.** Registration and Networking Breakfast
- 9:00 – 9:20 a.m.** **WELCOME**
Jenna Cramer, President and CEO, Green Building Alliance
Rich Fitzgerald, County Executive, Allegheny County
Rebecca Lucore, Sustainability and CSR North America, Covestro LLC
- 9:20 – 9:30 a.m.** Welcome and Opening Remarks: Haakan Jonsson, Chairman and President, Covestro LLC
- 9:30 – 9:55 a.m.** Mark Radka, Chief of the Energy and Climate Branch, United Nations Environment Programme
Opening Keynotes:
Majida El Quardirhi, Secretary-General, Department for Housing and City Policy, Ministry of National Territory Planning, Urban Planning, Housing and City Policy, Kingdom of Morocco
Richard Piacentini, Executive Director, Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens
- 9:55 – 10:40 a.m.** **Advancing Decarbonization and Near Zero Goals for Existing and New Buildings**
Mini-Keynote: Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
Followed by remarks from UNECE about the High Performance Buildings Initiative
- Panel Discussion**
Moderator: Dr. Erica Cochran Hameen, Co-Director, Center for Building Performance & Diagnostics, Carnegie Mellon University and co-leader of UNECE’s HPBI High Strategy Thought-Leader Group
- Panelists: Dr. Esther Obonyo, Executive Director, Global Building Network, Penn State University
Chris Cieslak, Chief Operations Officer and Vice President of Programs, Green Building Alliance
Ryan Colker, Vice President of Innovation, International Code Council
Brian Dean, Head of Energy Efficiency, Cooling for All Programme, Sustainable Energy for All
- 10:40-10:45 a.m.** Spotlight Speaker: Henrik D. H. Müller, Chief Climate Officer, City of Aarhus

10:45 - 11:20 a.m. **Powering the Future: Electrification and Decarbonization**
 Mini-Keynote: Ray Pilcher, Chair, Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE); Just Transition and Vice Chair of the Committee on Sustainable Energy

Panel Discussion

Moderator: Majestic Lane, Chief Equity Officer, Allegheny Conference on Community Development

Panelists: Kevin Walker, President and CEO, Duquesne Light Holdings, Inc.
 Jeremy Snyder, Partner, Buro Happold
 Sharon Pillar, Founder and Executive Director, The Pennsylvania Solar Center
 Ray Pilcher, Chair, Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE); Just Transition and Vice Chair of the Committee on Sustainable Energy

11:20-11:25 a.m.

Spotlight Speaker: Chris Gearhart, Director, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Center for Integrated Mobility Sciences

11:25 – 12:00 p.m. **Circularity and Climate Neutrality: Decarbonizing Products, Processes and Supply Chains**

Mini-Keynote: Stacy Smedley, Executive Director, Building Transparency and Senior Director of Sustainability, Skanska USA

Fireside Chat: Tim Thiel, Sustainability and Public Affairs North America, Covestro LLC
 Dr. Melissa Bilec, Co-Director, Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation, University of Pittsburgh

Q&A Session with all speakers.

12:00 - 12:45 p.m. **Breakout Session**

12:45 – 1:45 p.m. **Networking Lunch & Explore Phipps Conservatory**

1:45 – 2:15 p.m. **Afternoon Keynote**

Afternoon Opening: Michael Walsh, Deputy Secretary, PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Keynote Reshma Singh, Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of Energy's Building Technologies Office

2:15 – 2:20 p.m.

Mini-Keynote: Anthony Armaly, Regional Workforce Initiative (RWF) Federal Coordinator, National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL)

2:20 – 3:00 p.m. **Igniting a Clean Energy Economy: Empowering People + Just Transition**

Mini-Keynote: Michal Drabik, Chief of Section, Economic Affairs, Sustainable Energy Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Panel Discussion

Moderator: Dr. Gretchen Givens Generett, Dean & Professor, School of Education, Duquesne University

Panelists: Dr. Diamonte Walker, CEO, Pittsburgh Scholar House
 Karen Abrams, Director, Department of City Planning, City of Pittsburgh

Brandon Dennison, CEO, Coalfield Development
 Michal Drabik, Chief of Section, Economic Affairs, Sustainable Energy Division, United Nations
 Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

3:00 – 3:05 p.m.

Spotlight Speaker: Councillor Susan Aitken, City of Glasgow, Scotland

3:05 - 3:45 p.m.

Mini-Keynote: **Financing Built Environment Climate Solutions**
 Bill Peduto, Former Mayor of Pittsburgh on “The Marshall Plan for Middle America”

Mini-Keynote: Stefanie Held, Director, Sustainable Energy Hub, UN Development Programme

Panel Discussion

Moderator: Jeff McDaniel, Portfolio Executive, Innovation Works

Panelists: John Michael La Salle, Analyst, Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance
 Stefanie Held, Director, Sustainable Energy Hub, UN Development Programme
 Bill Peduto, Former Mayor of Pittsburgh on “The Marshall Plan for Middle America”

3:45 - 4:00 p.m.

Keynote: **Closing**
 George Bandy Jr., President and Chief Sustainability Officer, Fiber Industries LLC
 Former Head of Circular Economy, Amazon

4:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Closing Questions (*SLIDO*) and Remarks

4:30 p.m.

Reception