



THE POWER OF TECHNOLOGY TO SOLVE HUMANITARIAN CHALLENGES

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ABOUT VOICES OF SUSTAINABILITY

Voices of Sustainability is a thought leadership platform launched by the Zayed Sustainability Prize to explore the challenges and opportunities of the global transition to an inclusive and

prosperous future. Each month, the series hosts some of the top global thought leaders to discuss the latest trends and themes in the sustainability agenda.



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INTRODUCTION

The Zayed Sustainability Prize hosted the 27th episode of its virtual fireside chat series called Voices of Sustainability, featuring Stefano Raciti, Chief Operating Officer, Mubadala Energy; Alexandre Anjuere, Executive Director, Electriciens sans frontières; Carolyn Florey, Senior Director, Technology for Development, Mercy Corps; and Monique Ntumngia, Founder and Executive Director, Green Girls Organisation and Marco Duso, EMEA Sustainability Solutions Leader, EY, as moderator.

The thought-provoking discussion shone a spotlight on the transformative influence of innovative technology pioneered by Mubadala Energy, our past winners and finalists, and Mercy Corps. Unveiling the profound effects of sustainability on human lives, this episode underscores the pivotal role of collaboration in driving positive change.



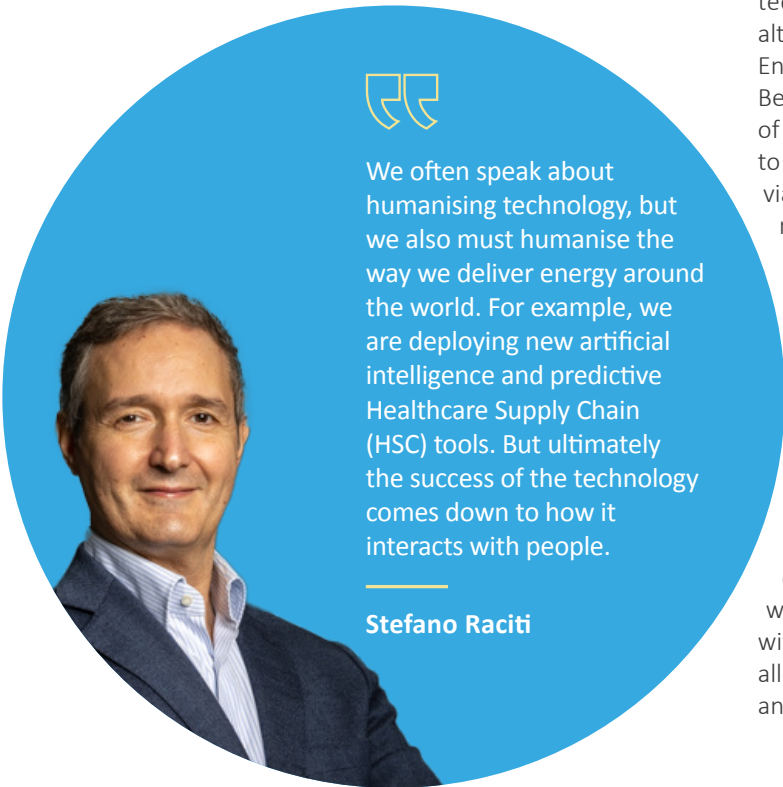
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SUMMARY REPORT

On 30 August 2023, Stefano Raciti, Alexandre Anjuere, Carolyn Florey, and Monique Ntumngia participated in a Voices of Sustainability virtual fireside chat hosted by the Zayed Sustainability Prize and moderated by Marco Duso.

Stefano Raciti, the Chief Operating Officer of Mubadala Energy, stepped in first, casting light on the inadequacies of conventional methods, such as constructing dams and pipelines, noting their expense and time-consuming nature. Raciti championed technology as a cost-effective and sustainable alternative. He introduced the case of Mubadala Energy—a partner in the Zayed Sustainability Prize’s Beyond2020 initiative—which harnessed the power of solar-driven water pumps to deliver clean water to remote communities. These pumps, economically viable and manageable by locals, exemplified the marriage of innovation and practicality.

Then, Alexandre Anjuere, the Executive Director of Electriciens sans frontières, introduced his work. Anjuere narrated the impactful journey of his organisation, which employed solar-powered water pumps to uplift refugee camps in Bangladesh. Through these pumps, refugees gained access to clean water, mitigating the risk of waterborne diseases, and elevating their quality of life. Anjuere emphasised the significance of collaboration, illustrating with examples how winning the Zayed Sustainability Prize and partnering with Beyond2020 have facilitated EWB’s expansion, allowing them to offer life-changing access to clean and affordable energy to a broader global audience.

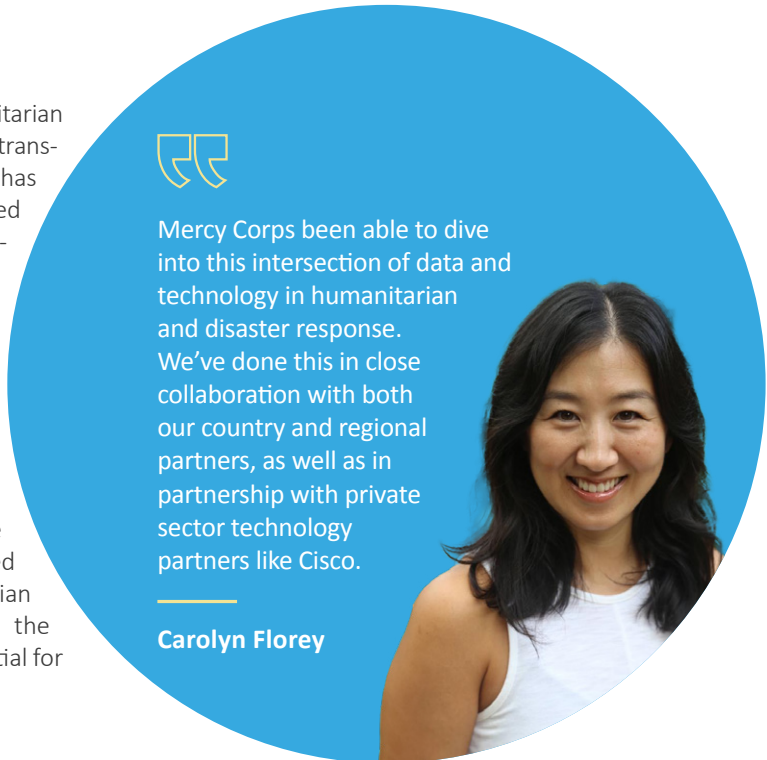


We often speak about humanising technology, but we also must humanise the way we deliver energy around the world. For example, we are deploying new artificial intelligence and predictive Healthcare Supply Chain (HSC) tools. But ultimately the success of the technology comes down to how it interacts with people.

Stefano Raciti

Titled ‘The Power of Technology to Solve Humanitarian Challenges’, the conversation focused on the transformative influence that innovative technology has had on humanitarianism. The panellists explored the profound effects of sustainability on human lives and underscored the pivotal role of technology and collaboration in driving positive change.

In regions facing the challenge of limited access to clean water, a pressing issue that affected health, education, and economic prosperity, technology emerged as a beacon of hope. The Voices of Sustainability episode delved into the pivotal role technology played in ameliorating water access during humanitarian crises. Through the insights of four experts, the narrative unfolded, shedding light on the potential for technology to drive positive change.



Mercy Corps been able to dive into this intersection of data and technology in humanitarian and disaster response. We’ve done this in close collaboration with both our country and regional partners, as well as in partnership with private sector technology partners like Cisco.

Carolyn Florey

Caroline Florey, the Senior Director of Technology for Development at Mercy Corps, entered the conversation next. She underscored the indispensability of partnerships in harnessing technology for humanitarian causes. Florey expounded on Mercy Corps' collaborative approach, working hand in hand with local communities to tailor water solutions to their unique needs. She cited the example of a solar-powered water management system in Kenya that not only bolstered clean water availability but also generated local employment.

She then highlighted a compelling case from her organisation's efforts in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where the comprehensive utilisation of data aggregation, analysis, and visualisation enabled Mercy Corps to not only predict potential crises but also to strategically pinpoint communities for targeted emergency response. This swift and efficient response to conflict translated into invaluable time saved and countless lives preserved.

Finally, Monique Ntumngia, the Founder and Executive Director of Green Girls Organisation, joined the dialogue. Her organisation pioneered a groundbreaking strategy, using AI to identify specific clean energy challenges faced by women and girls in African villages.



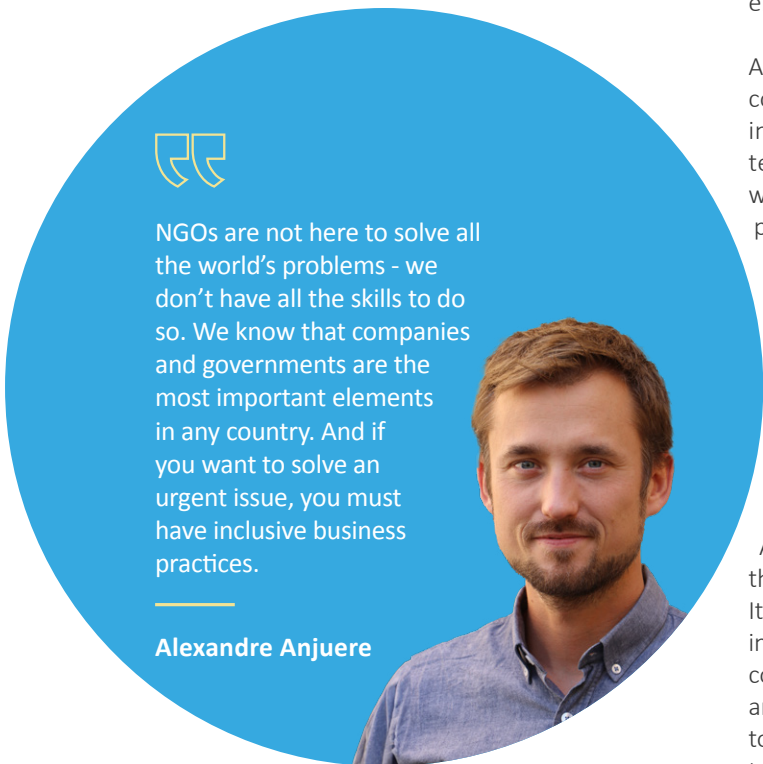
We train women and girls how to assemble solar lamps. We create markets for them to sell these lamps. They keep 70% of the revenue, and we keep 30%. Our financial model is the definition of sustainability, and it's all about how we can keep impacting and changing lives where we operate.

Monique Ntumngia

Ntumngia's approach involved customising clean energy solutions, imparting eco-entrepreneurial skills, and fostering a sustainable business model to empower marginalised communities.

As the conversation drew to a close, the experts collectively expounded on the future of technology in humanitarian aid. They expressed enthusiasm for technology's capacity to address global challenges, while also urging caution against regarding it as a panacea. The harmonious fusion of technology, community engagement, and traditional methods emerged as the most potent avenue for creating holistic and enduring impact.

The episode narrated a compelling tale of how technology reshaped the humanitarian landscape, particularly in the realms of safe drinking water and clean and affordable energy access. With insights shared by Stefano Raciti, Alexandre Anjuere, Caroline Florey, and Monique Ntumngia, the narrative technology's transformational potential. It underscored the imperative of a comprehensive, integrated approach that married innovation with community involvement. This episode stood as an indispensable narrative for those who seek to comprehend the intricate interplay between technology, sustainability, and social advancement.



NGOs are not here to solve all the world's problems - we don't have all the skills to do so. We know that companies and governments are the most important elements in any country. And if you want to solve an urgent issue, you must have inclusive business practices.

Alexandre Anjuere

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PARTICIPANTS



Stefano Raciti

Chief Operating Officer
Mubadala Energy

Stefano Raciti has over 30 years of diversified international experience in business development, project development and asset management gained in the oil & gas and advanced materials industries. He is experienced with key aspects of Corporate and Business Development, Projects Development, Strategic Planning, Asset Management, Oil & Gas Engineering/Project Management.

He has been at Mubadala since early 2007 covering different roles including VP Business Development for Mubadala Energy Services, as Asset Manager at Mubadala Energy and most recently as the Country Manager for Malaysia, where he oversaw Mubadala Energy's flagship Pegaga gas project from exploration to development and into production.

He has held Board positions on a number of Mubadala joint venture companies, including a Chairman of the Board role. He also held the role of Chairman of Audit and Risk Compliance Committee for a Mubadala fully owned subsidiary.

He earned a BSc cum laudae in Civil/Structural Engineering from Tennessee Technological University and MSc in Systems Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic and State University.



Carolyn Florey

Senior Director of Technology for Development
Mercy Corps

Carolyn Florey is the Senior Director, Technology for Development at Mercy Corps. In this role, she is responsible for guiding organisational and programmatic vision and strategy on the application of digital and data services at Mercy Corps. Prior to Mercy Corps, she was the Technology for Development Lead at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines, where she led the Digital Tools and Big Data Research Unit and worked to leverage digital technologies for agricultural research for development. Carolyn has previously worked at the World Bank, United Nations Foundation, USAID, the Inter-American Development Bank, a women's health NGO in Delhi, India (Breakthrough), and as a Fulbright grantee in Jeonju, South Korea. She holds an MA in International Development and International Economics from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and a BA in International Relations and Spanish from Tufts University.

PARTICIPANTS



Monique Ntumngia

Founder and Executive Director
Green Girls Organisation

Monique Ntumngia is a sustainable entrepreneur and human rights advocate for climate-gender justice. Passionate about entrepreneurship and promoting sustainable development in Africa with the use of renewable energy, Artificial Intelligence and Geo-spatial technology.

She is the Founder and Executive Director of the Green Girls Organisation a Pan-African energy social enterprise that uses AI and geo-spatial technology to identify the specific clean energy problems that affect women and girls in African rural communities and with the data collected her team provides the specific clean energy solutions through solar and biogas installations for these women and girls all the while financially empowering these women and girls with green skills.

She is also the Founder of Monafrik Energy a clean energy company that collects data on energy consumption in supply and value chains to measure and compare the environmental impact of projects and products.

Her work in providing access to clean and affordable energy on the African continent and the world at large, portray her values of service to not only her country Cameroon but Africa and the world at large and the impact of the Green Girls Organisation has earned her numerous international recognitions.

The conversation was moderated by:



Marco Duso

EMEIA Sustainability Solutions Leader
EY



Alexandre Anjuere

Executive Director
Electriciens sans frontières

Alexandre Anjuere is the Executive Director of Electriciens sans frontières. After a first foray in the aid sector during his masters at EDHEC business school (working on microfinance, vocational training and solar installations, in Asia, South America and West Africa), he started his career in the automotive business, but soon moved on to his topic of choice: the environment and sustainable development, acquiring a specialized master's degree from engineering school Mines Paris. He worked on the integration of those concerns at electricity public utility RTE, France's Transmission System Operator (waste management, circular economy, life-cycle analysis) before joining NGO Electriciens sans frontières, after a first experience with the NGO as a volunteer on a post emergency mission in Mozambique.

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OUTCOMES



Technology can play a role in providing more affordable and sustainable solutions to water problems in developing countries



Partnerships between technology companies, NGOs, and local communities are essential for the successful implementation of water solutions



Technology must be used in conjunction with other approaches, such as community engagement, to be truly effective



Artificial intelligence and machine learning can be used to improve water quality and efficiency



Working in remote areas with limited connectivity can be a challenge for technology solutions



Training local communities on how to use and maintain water solutions is essential for sustainability

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