



REUTERS EVENTS™

TRAILBLAZING WOMEN 2024 ENERGY



FOREWORD

Welcome to Reuters Events' Trailblazing Women in Energy 2024, a collection of inspiring, influential and impactful women we have collated to celebrate International Women's Day.

This list of 20 trailblazing women has been curated from a much broader pool of nominations we sought from across the industry, speaking to stakeholders and representatives in our Energy community to discover women with a demonstrable track record of influence, impact and leadership of their organization and industry alike.

We'd like to thank all of those who contributed and helped us put together our list of Trailblazing Women this year.

The theme for this year's International Women's Day is to #InspireInclusion, the goal being to inspire people

to collaborate more effectively in making the world more inclusive for women. It is our hope that this report plays just a small part in that by showcasing the significant achievements of our list of trailblazing women, which you can read in the forthcoming pages.

The stories and career accomplishments you'll read in this report are not only a testament to the expertise and determination our trailblazers have demonstrated, but should also serve as inspiration for the next generation of talented, trailblazing women.

We hope in publishing this report, we make these stories more visible and shine a light on the power of diverse and representative environments.

Owen Rolt

Head of Energy Transition
Reuters Events

HOW WE ASSEMBLED OUR LIST OF TRAILBLAZING WOMEN

In naming our list of Trailblazing Women in Energy, we sought nominations of individuals who have had a lasting impact on their industries, with a demonstrable track record of influence, impact and leadership.

A broader pool of nominations was assessed individually by an internal team, with nominations considered against the recency of their achievements and the impact they have had on their organization and industry.

Additional weighting was given to nominations from underrepresented communities and/or industry sectors.

Nominations were received from a broad set of industry stakeholders, including but not limited to, trusted contacts from across Reuters Professional and the communities served by Reuters Events.

Efforts were made to ensure that we received nominations from as broad and representative a pool of stakeholders as possible, and our final list of Trailblazers has been assembled to reflect fair representation ethnically, geographically, per industry and from across the political spectrum where necessary.

All individuals nominated in our list of Trailblazers have given their consent to be named in this list.



Damilola Asaley
Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer, Ashdam Solar Co Ltd
Vice President, Renewable Energy Association of Nigeria

Damilola is a renewable energy entrepreneur with over 16 years' experience. Damilola is the Vice President of the Renewable Energy Association of Nigeria. Damilola is also the Chief Operating Officer and a Co-founder of Ashdam Solar Company Limited, a social enterprise focused on solving energy poverty in Nigeria through providing access to clean energy and also renewable energy capacity building. Damilola also serves as the Founder and Executive Director of the Girls and Women Technological Empowerment Organisation - GWTEO, a non-profit focused on empowering girls and women to be leaders in the technology industry through capacity building. Damilola has empowered more than 6,000 girls and 250 women through her various initiatives such as Green Tech Girls Summer Bootcamp and Solar Queen Technical Training Program.

Damilola studied Regulation for Sustainable Development Goal 7 at the Florence school of regulation. She is currently on her PhD research in Energy Engineering at Munster Technological University, Ireland with specialty in renewable energy microgrid and demand side management. She has a Master's degree in Physics from the Prestigious University of Ibadan and a Bachelor's degree in Physics with Solar Energy from Bowen University, Iwo Nigeria.



I am deeply honored to be recognized as a Trailblazing Woman in Energy. This nomination is not just a celebration of my achievements, but a testament to the power of diversity and resilience in the energy sector. Let us continue to break barriers, inspire change, and illuminate the path for future generations of women in this dynamic field. Together, we can light the way towards a sustainable and inclusive energy future for all."



Laura Beane
President
Vestas North America

Laura Beane joined Vestas as President, North America in June 2021. Prior to joining Vestas Laura was the Chief Renewables Officer for ENGIE North America where she worked to integrate acquired grid-scale wind and solar, distributed solar, and storage companies in support of ENGIE's pivot to clean energy. Before joining ENGIE, Laura was the President & CEO of Avangrid Renewables, one of the leading developers and marketers of renewable energy in the United States.

Laura built her career over more than 20 years at Avangrid, holding various positions in operations, market structure, regulation, policy, compliance, and special projects. Laura is passionate about renewable energy and prioritizes delivery of customer-focused solutions through collaboration and deployment of the exceptional talent of the full Vestas team.

Laura is a Board and Executive Committee member of American Clean Power Association (ACP) and a Board member of the American Council of Renewable Energy (ACORE). Laura holds a Master of Global Energy Management with the University of Comillas and an MBA with the University of Strathclyde. Outside of the office, Laura enjoys running, playing the piano, baking, traveling, and spending time with her family and beloved bulldog.



Being recognized among the other esteemed leaders in the energy sector is a tribute to the remarkable individuals within Vestas and the industry for their tireless efforts, innovative spirit, and commitment to a sustainable future. Thank you to my peers and colleagues for continuing to drive forward the clean energy transition. I am honored to stand alongside you."



Zsafia Beck
Managing Director and Partner
Boston Consulting Group
(BCG)

Zsafia Beck, Managing Director and Partner at Boston Consulting Group (BCG) in Budapest, is at the forefront of shaping energy industry strategies and advancing climate and sustainability efforts across Central and Eastern Europe. With a tenure that spans 17 years, Zsafia leads the firm’s work in the Energy and Climate and Sustainability sectors in CEE. By initiating constructive discussions and challenging conventional thinking, she has been instrumental in transforming the biggest energy companies in the region. She has become a key figure in consulting for energy companies, governments, regulators and NGOs, to drive impactful change, leveraging her extensive experience in strategy consulting across multiple regions including Western Europe, the Middle East, North America, and Southeast Asia.

Zsafia’s educational background, with degrees in engineering, management, and economics from the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, complemented by summer programs at Harvard and UCLA, has provided a solid foundation for her illustrious career.

Notably, Zsafia’s passion extends beyond her professional achievements. As a former professional water polo player, she has experienced significant success, embodying the spirit of determination, excellence and team play. Her commitment to imparting these values to her 8-year-old daughter, alongside her recognition as the Most Influential Energy Expert in CEE by the regional energy sector publication CEEnergyNews, underscores her influential role in the energy sector and her dedication to making a lasting impact.



Solving the countless challenges of the ongoing energy transition is not only my passion but in my view also an obligation towards the next generations – and becoming a mom just made me even more passionate about it.”



Valerie Bouillon-Delporte
Hydrogen Ecosystem Director –
MICHELIN
Co- President –
FRANCE HYDROGENE

Mrs. Bouillon-Delporte, as Hydrogen Ecosystem Director, is in charge of hydrogen topics from an ecosystem perspective at Michelin. Mrs. Bouillon-Delporte has worked for more than 20 years for several leading automotive tier one manufacturers. She is a board member and co-President of France Hydrogene, the French hydrogen trade association and also a board member of AVERE, the trade association for electric vehicles in France. From 2017 to 2021 she was the President of Hydrogen Europe, the leading European association of H2 industries and former Chair of the Governing board of the Clean Hydrogen Partnership (formerly FCH JU), a public private partnership in fuel cell and hydrogen energy technologies in Europe. She has received many recognitions, including Knight of the Order of the French Legion of Honour in 2021 and the Prize of Women in energy transition 2021. In early 2019 she was selected by La Tribune as one of the 100 persons who are transforming France and won the Prize “transforming France 2019” in the mobility category.



I am so honoured to be part of the Trailblazing Women in Energy. This recognition demonstrates that the hydrogen sector is a key lever to make changes a reality and that women together with men have a role to play to spur these changes. We need to believe in our ability to make it happen. The sooner the better.”



Clarice Coppetti
Executive Director of
Corporate Affairs
Petrobras

Clarice Coppetti has a degree in Economic Science (PUCRS) and Economic Science (Centro Universitário Senac) and an MBA in Strategic Information Technology Management from FGV.

Throughout her career, her outstanding performances have consolidated her as a reference professional in information technology, data security, and tax management. Since April 2023, Clarice has been the Executive Director of Corporate Affairs at Petrobras.

In 36 years of experience in the market, she has held leadership positions in large companies. She was Commercial Director of the Data Processing Company of the State of Rio Grande do Sul (PROCERGS), Director of Operations and Services of the Olympic Public Authority (APO), Director of Institutional Relations, accumulating the Financial Board of Norte Energia S/A. She is a full member of the Federal Public Bank Employees Association's (FUNCEF) Deliberative Council and Fiscal Council.

At Caixa Econômica Federal, she held advisory and management positions for eight years. She was vice president of Information Technology, chair of the Information Technology Committee, full member of the Audit Committee, and a full member of the Risk Committee. She also sat on the boards of other companies in the holding company: at Caixa Capitalização S/A, she was a full member of the Board of Directors, and at Caixa Consórcios S/A, she was an alternate member of the Fiscal Council.



It's energizing and an honor to be on this list alongside many admirable women. I'm sure I'm here representing the mighty women of Petrobras! This recognition from Reuters Events reflects a significant change in the energy market scenario, which has historically been more male dominated, showing that building environments in corporations that enable women to reach leadership positions is possible and inspiring for new generations. This is the seed for more excellent representation of women in the coming years and for achieving gender equality in the sector. There is still a long way to go in facing challenges and breaking down barriers, but our steps will motivate more women to believe in their potential and conquer their space in the industry. I am grateful for the opportunity to share my experience and knowledge. I trust that together, we will innovate and drive the future of global energy more inclusively and sustainably without leaving anyone behind."



Vaitea Cowan
Co-founder
Enapter

Vaitea Cowan is one of the cofounders of electrolyser manufacturer, Enapter, working on making green hydrogen affordable for all with their AEM technology. Created at the end of 2017, the three co-founders grew the team to 240 by 2024 and took the company public in 2020. Together, the team have delivered more than 4,000 units worldwide and grown their partner network to increase the access to clean energy. As VP Communications, she's focused on raising awareness of the use cases of decentralized hydrogen from energy storage, hydrogen refueling, or process heat. Vaitea is on the Forbes 30 Under 30 list for Energy 2020. She supported Enapter in winning the inaugural Earthshot Prize "Fix Our Climate" launched by Prince William and The Royal Foundation in 2021. She also gave a Ted Talk titled "How green hydrogen could end the fossil fuel era". Vaitea has a background in business with 6 years of experience in green hydrogen.



It's an honor to be nominated amongst these Trailblazing Women in Energy. Embracing diversity is key for both innovation and tackling climate change. Let's champion inclusive solutions like green hydrogen, forging a path towards a sustainable future for many generations to come."



Lori Clark
President, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Nuclear Officer,
New Brunswick Power Corporation

Lori was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer on March 20, 2023, after serving as acting president and CEO since July 4, 2022. Most recently, Lori served as the Senior Vice President, Operations and led the teams responsible for safe and reliable generation (conventional), transmission and distribution of power across the province. Ms. Clark was also accountable for the employees who serve our customers every day and those focused on modernizing the New Brunswick power grid.

Lori began her career with NB Power in 1990. Since that time, she has held positions of increasing responsibility including Controller, Managing Director of Finance, Executive Director of Regulatory Affairs and Vice President, Regulatory Affairs and Strategic Initiatives. Lori has extensive experience with the utility's rate application process, appearing as a witness for NB Power at several rate hearings.

Lori holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of New Brunswick and is a Chartered Professional Accountant. Lori has also studied Nuclear Reactor Technology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Leadership at the Wharton School of Business.



As the first female in these roles in the organization's 100-year history, I'm thankful that women's contributions are being recognized and we are finding our seat at the table. I'm grateful for the opportunities I've had and the mentors, coaches and sponsors I've had, both male and female. Part of my legacy is to make this path easier and smoother for the amazing and talented females who come next!"



Dr. Lamya Fawwaz
Executive Director of Brand & Strategic Initiatives
Masdar

Dr. Lamya Fawwaz is Executive Director of Brand & Strategic Initiatives at Masdar responsible for spearheading the company's global image and driving its mission to accelerate the world's energy transition.

Her track record includes directing Masdar's communication, marketing, and branding strategies, aligning them with the company's vision to be a leader in renewables and green hydrogen, and supporting the UAE's ambitious Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative.

Dr. Fawwaz spearheads Masdar's strategic initiatives, including Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, a global initiative championed by the UAE and Masdar to accelerate sustainable development and advance economic, social and environmental progress; Women in Sustainability, Environment, and Renewable Energy (WiSER), a platform that inspires women to play an active role in addressing sustainability challenges; and Youth 4 Sustainability (Y4S), a platform dedicated to nurturing the next generation of sustainability leaders through training and real-world experience.

Additionally, she plays a multifaceted role as the Director of the Zayed Sustainability Prize, the UAE's pioneering global award that recognizes excellence in sustainability. Established in 2008, the Zayed Sustainability Prize honors the humanitarian and sustainability legacy of the late founding father of the UAE, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

Dr. Fawwaz's background includes being Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Public Affairs at the Masdar Institute of Science and Technology and serving as a member of the Private Sector Advisory Council to the UAE's National Committee on the Sustainable Development Goals.



To be recognized as one of the Trailblazing Women in Energy signifies the incredible progress the UAE has made in fostering and empowering women in leadership roles. Masdar's WiSER platform (Women in Sustainability, Environment and Renewable Energy) reflects our nation's commitment to advancing gender parity in sustainability, supporting women to be more active in the sector. We must continue to inspire and champion the next generation of women sustainability leaders, enabling them to play a greater role in climate solutions, for an inclusive and equitable energy transition."



Cassie Flynn
*Global Director,
Climate Change*
**United Nations
Development**

Cassie Flynn is the Global Director of Climate Change at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and oversees a climate portfolio spanning more than 150 countries, among the world's largest.

At the United Nations, Cassie has been on the forefront of climate action for the last 15 years. She advises prime ministers, presidents, heads of state, global leaders, and high-level coalitions on the climate crisis and was a key player in the historic Paris Agreement negotiations.

At UNDP, she led the Climate Promise that supported over 85% of developing countries to create and deliver their pledges under the Paris Agreement. By 2021, every country in the portfolio had an energy pledge, over 90% increased mitigation ambition and over 94% enhanced adaptation and resilience. The Climate Promise has been credited as a key initiative that advanced multilateral cooperation on climate change.

Cassie is a sought-after speaker for major conferences and events, including TED and SxSW. She is also a trusted expert for international and national media outlets, such as the BBC, Wall Street Journal, and New York Times. She was named to the World Economic Forum's Council on Just Transition and is the author of "Blending Climate Finance Through National Climate Funds."

Cassie holds a Master's Degree from Yale University and Bachelor Degrees from Bowdoin College.



Transitioning to clean energy is our only way out of the climate crisis. I am honored to be nominated for the 2024 Trailblazing Women in Energy. This recognition is a testament to the collective power of women in shaping the future of the energy industry and steering our planet toward a more sustainable future."



Irina Gorbounova
Head of XCarb
Innovation Fund

Irina is a senior global leader focused on sustainability, impact investments, and decarbonization. At ArcelorMittal, she is responsible for executing strategic M&A deals and sustainable ventures in steel and mining. She also leads the investments of XCarb, an innovation fund focused on companies developing breakthrough technologies to accelerate the steel industry's transition to carbon neutral steelmaking.

With around two decades of experience in breakthrough technology investments, impact investing, and expertise in mergers and acquisitions, Irina has become a notable figure in her field. Her board memberships across various high-impact and growing companies showcase her commitment to fostering sustainable and innovative business practices.

As a member of the GCV Global Industry Sustainability Council and a steering committee member of Global Energy Transition congress, Irina contributes to significant global discussions on sustainability. She is a member of leadership council of Breakthrough Energy Catalyst and has also strong philanthropic presence, serving as a Member Board of Directors at the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children and Impact Campaigner of Women in Renewable Energy, a non-for-profit global network of professional women in the renewable energy industry.

With extensive experience in M&A and venture leadership, Irina is passionate about a zero-carbon future for the steel and mining industry and brings a forward-thinking perspective on how to achieve net zero goals.



I am honored to be nominated by Reuters Events as one of the Trailblazing Women in Energy 2024 and recognized alongside such an esteemed group of women driving the global climate agenda."



Eng. Reem Hamdan
Director General
**Electricity
 Distribution Co.**

Reem Hamdan is the Director General for Electricity Distribution Co. (EDCO). She was appointed in January 2022, serving one of the three distribution companies in Jordan. She is managing more than 1,500 employees located in Amman and the southern districts of Jordan, among them 133 female employees, contributing to 9% of EDCO employee and considered the highest shares within the EDCO in years.

She has more than 31 years of experience and has been the Director General Assistant for Regulation and Planning in the company since 2008, leading EDCO in technical and planning studies to meet the regulatory performance standards, reduce carbon emissions, employ renewable energy, and smart grid implementation. Hamdan has established herself as a respected scientist in her field with a solid vision for Jordan's future electricity requirements.

Hamdan graduated from the University of Jordan in 1993, then started her career in 1993 with the Jordan Electricity Authority's research and development section and was responsible for reliability studies and reducing distribution losses.

Hamdan participated in numerous workshops and international projects as speaker and received several certificates from international committees for her participation, and received an award for best applied research at the 15th GCC CIGRE Seminar.



Being nominated and recognized as a Trailblazing Woman in Energy gives me the confidence and courage to continue in this complex field. I'm honored and thrilled for this nomination and I hope this will pave the way for other women to continue their work journey."



Ellen Nielsen
Chief Data Officer
Chevron

Ellen Nielsen is the Chief Data Officer at Chevron, focusing on creating a data-oriented culture partnered with value chain thinking. A multi-disciplinary leader, Nielsen has over 30 years of global experience as an executive in IT, digital, data, procurement, and supply chain. She has worked with industry leaders in oil and gas, FMCG, automotive, manufacturing, retail, banking and insurance.

Nielsen is a regular speaker for her industry, and has presented for PPDM Association Data Expo, Evanta CDAO, MIT CDOIQ, and the Houston CDO Executive Summit. She has received numerous awards and recognitions including Corporation of the Year by Women Leaders in Data and AI, CDO Magazine – Data Leaders in North America 3rd, and DataIQ 100 – 5th most influential people in data in the USA.

AA firm believer in giving back, Ellen serves on a variety of boards, Including: PIDX International – Petroleum Industry Data Exchange, Women Leaders in Data and AI (WLDA), Digital Business Network Alliance, and the Global Editorial Board of CDO Magazine.



The future of energy will be shaped by the collective efforts of people from diverse backgrounds. Women, who are accomplished in their field, will lead the way in data and artificial intelligence, and drive innovation to tackle the most pressing challenges of our time. Artificial intelligence supported by data, and fueled by human ingenuity and innovation, will help realize our energy goals today and deliver solutions to energy's greatest challenges."



Damilola Ogunbiyi
CEO and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All, and Co-Chair of UN-Energy.

Damilola Ogunbiyi is the CEO and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All, and Co-Chair of UN-Energy. With Mrs. Ogunbiyi at the helm, Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) has entered into working relationships with over 200 partners, supported over 90 countries globally, and secured commitments of more than \$1.3 trillion in energy finance.

She has practical on the ground experience, she initiated the Nigerian Electrification Project, a \$550 million facility that to date has provided energy access to over 5 million people across Nigeria and implemented over 100 megawatts of decentralized energy projects supplying electricity to hospitals, schools, and government facilities.

Mrs. Ogunbiyi is a member of the World Bank's Private Sector Investment Lab, a member of the Global Leadership Council of the Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP), an Advisory Board member of the Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University, and a member of the Development Advisory Council of the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC).

She is a global leader and advocate for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and is passionate about achieving SDG7 - access to reliable, affordable, sustainable, and modern energy for all by 2030.

Mrs. Ogunbiyi is the recipient of the Energy Institute President's Award for 2023 and has been recognized as a trailblazer in her field.



It is an honor to be named as one of the Trailblazing Women in Energy. Empowering women and recognizing their pivotal role in the energy sector will yield transformative outcomes, including improved energy access, reduced emissions, and socio-economic advancements."



Ana Quelhas
Managing Director, Hydrogen Business Unit
EDP

Ana Quelhas is the Managing Director for Hydrogen at EDP, leading the Group's renewable hydrogen business. Prior to that, Ana was the Head of Energy Planning at EDP, being responsible for supporting the Executive Board of Directors in decision-making processes, contributing with a long-term perspective of the energy sector and an integrated vision of the company across businesses (renewables, conventional electricity generation, retail and distribution) and geographies (mainly Europe, US and Brazil).

Before joining EDP, Ana worked in the Directorate-General for Research of the European Commission, in Brussels, supporting the development of the strategic research agenda in the field of energy. Prior to that, she was at the California Independent System Operator providing strategic energy consultancy to the wholesale power market and grid operator in the State of California.

Ana holds a PhD with distinction in Electrical Engineering from Iowa State University. She also holds a master's degree in Economics and a master's degree in Engineering from the same university, being graduated from the University of Porto with a degree in Electrical Engineering.



The energy transition and the need to efficiently decarbonize our economies is a tremendous challenge that can only be addressed with collective awareness and actions. Each one has a role to play and, through these many years of experience in the energy sector, I have been privileged to work each and every day towards the greater purpose of fighting against climate change. This recognition is humbling, but it gives me an extra drive to keep pushing through the challenges and I hope that it inspires others to shape the journey to a better future."



Camila Ramos
CEO & Founder
CELA Clean Energy
Latin America

Camila Ramos has 21 years of experience working with clients in the energy transition in Latin America. She is CEO & Founder of CELA Clean Energy Latin America, a financial advisory and strategy consulting firm based in São Paulo, Brazil, working exclusively in the clean energy space, including wind, solar, energy storage and green hydrogen. She also currently serves as Board Member at Brazilian Rare Earths, Board Member and VP of Investments and Green Hydrogen at the Brazilian Solar PV Association (ABSOLAR) and Board Member at the Federation of Industry of the State of São Paulo (FIESP – COINFRA).

Prior to founding CELA, she was Country Manager and Head of Latin America at Bloomberg New Energy Finance (BNEF), where she advised clients with research and analysis of renewable energy sectors and markets, and trends in the region. She has also worked in the past at PricewaterhouseCoopers, ERB - Energias Renováveis do Brasil and Infinity Bio-Energy.

Camila has a BSc. and MSc. from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).



I am honored to be included in this list, because I have always been passionate about renewable energy, working with clients in this sector for the past 21 years, even when this was a niche. I am even more excited now that the energy transition has come to the forefront of business, geopolitics and even everyday life."



Jessica Reinhardt
Sustainability Partnerships & Engagement
Google

Jessica leads strategic partnerships and engagement in support of Google's sustainability objectives, having driven development of the 24/7 Carbon-Free Energy Compact in collaboration with UN-Energy and Sustainable Energy for All which brings together companies, governments, and other organizations to unlock carbon-free energy every hour, of every day, on grids around the world.

Before Google, Jessica spent more than 15 years at the intersection of policy, advocacy, technology and market development in various roles at the New York Legislature, Con Edison, SolarCity, Tesla and Sunrun. Superstorm Sandy ravaged New York City during her tenure at Con Edison, prompting her to focus on modernizing the electricity grid to withstand the extreme weather events that would inevitably follow.

Most recently, Jessica served as Senior Director of Policy at Sunrun where she worked with utilities, commissions and agencies at all levels of government to deploy distributed solar and battery storage technologies across the U.S, while serving on the boards of several state solar associations.

Jessica resides in the Bay Area.



I am honored to be acknowledged alongside this incredible group of women driving innovation in the energy sector and carving a path for future generations of women to lead and shape the industry's future."



Abigail Ross Hopper
President and CEO
**Solar Energy
 Industries
 Association**

Abigail Ross Hopper is the president and CEO of the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), the national trade organization for America's solar and storage industry. Ms. Hopper is a visionary leader who has transformed SEIA into an advocacy powerhouse and the leading voice for solar and storage in the United States. She has overseen tremendous industry-wide growth, most notably, the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, a historic piece of climate and clean energy legislation. She is also working to shepherd the next generation of the solar workforce by championing diversity initiatives and making the fight against climate change more accessible. Before joining SEIA, Ms. Hopper was the Director of the Department of Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, where she led the agency that oversaw the leasing and development of all offshore energy, from oil and natural gas to offshore wind. She also served as the Director of the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA), and as the Energy Advisor to Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley. Ms. Hopper graduated Cum Laude from the University of Maryland School of Law and earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Dartmouth College.



It is truly an honor to share space with an impressive group of women who are charting a new path for America's energy sector. I'm proud to lead the solar and storage industry's work to unleash abundant clean energy and uplift communities across this country with jobs, investments, and reliable clean energy."



Lori J. Ryerkerk
*Chairman, Chief Executive
 Officer and President*
Celanese Corporation

Lori J. Ryerkerk is the Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President of Celanese Corporation, a Fortune 500 global chemical and specialty materials company based in Dallas, Texas. Celanese is a leader in the development and production of materials used in most major industrial and consumer applications. Ryerkerk was named CEO and a member of the board of directors in May 2019, and appointed Chairman in April 2020.

Her expertise in the energy industry spans three-plus decades. Prior to Celanese, Ryerkerk held various positions at Shell, Hess Corporation and ExxonMobil. She combines deep technical and commercial skills with a passion for the manufacturing business. Her unwavering focus on safety, environmental and social performance has helped her oversee some of the most technically complex operations in the industry throughout her career.

Under Ryerkerk's leadership, Celanese has also grown to capture ~\$2 billion in adjusted EBITDA value and now offers sustainable solutions across the majority of its product portfolio.

Ryerkerk graduated from Iowa State University with a Chemical Engineering degree. She currently serves on the board of directors of Eaton Corporation and previously served on the board of Axalta Coating Systems.



It's truly an honor to be recognized among this group of women who are propelling such a critical industry forward, and represent the other female leaders and Board members here at Celanese who have enabled our success. While global issues we're facing like climate change are daunting, I sincerely believe the growth, innovation and sustainability-first mindset we're seeing from my fellow nominees is why the larger energy sector is both more than capable and uniquely positioned to help solve these challenges."



Prof. Durreen Shahnaz
Founder & CEO
Impact Investment Exchange

Prof. Durreen Shahnaz is the CEO and Founder of Impact Investment Exchange (IIX). A global leader of sustainable finance and impact investing, she is a 2017 Oslo Business for Peace Award Honoree (often referred to as the 'Nobel Prize for Business'), a financial rainmaker in Forbes 50 over 50, and an Asia Society Game Changer Awardee.

Over the last 15 years, IIX has connected the Back Streets of underserved communities to the Wall Streets of the world and has unlocked over \$400 million of capital impacting over 160 million lives and promoting climate action across the globe.

Leveraging a diverse career, Shahnaz has connected underserved communities to global finance, empowering millions of women, entrepreneurs, investors, governments, and stakeholders for sustainable development. She actively advocates for an inclusive world, emphasizing the intersection of climate action and gender equality in capital markets through initiatives like the Orange Movement.

Shahnaz is also the author of *The Defiant Optimist*, her highly anticipated debut book on the subject of inclusion and equity and enabling finance for the 99%.



It's humbling to stand among the Trailblazing Women in Energy and be acknowledged for our meaningful work with the Women's Livelihood Bond 6 (WLB6). At IIX, we're deeply invested in uplifting and empowering women, recognizing their crucial role in addressing global challenges, especially the urgent issue of climate change. Immersed in the vibrant spirit of the Orange Movement, advocating for UNSDG5, we ardently support initiatives that intersect gender equality and climate action."



Dr Shahidah Mohd Shariff
Fellow of Chemical Sciences
Malaysia Academy of Sciences
International Fellow of Engineering and Chemistry (IE&C)

A trained chemist with 34 years of experience in the R&D office of the energy sector, Mohd Shariff brings a wealth of experience. Holding an applied science degree from University of Technology, Queensland, Australia and a PhD from University of Leeds, United Kingdom, her academic background complements her extensive practical knowledge. As a CEO for six years at a research center, Mohd Shariff takes pride in her role as a bridge between scientific theory and practical applications, striving to make a tangible impact on the world through technology commercialization. Her focus has been on nurturing new talents and mentoring the younger generation. Collaborating with leading universities worldwide, and she has spearheaded initiatives to develop technologies aimed at minimizing carbon footprints, impurities and reducing environmental impacts. Mohd Shariff's career has been marked by a commitment to innovation, sustainability, and fostering the growth of emerging talents in the energy sector.



Embrace challenges as opportunities, empower others with kindness, lead by example and strive for continuous growth. Inspire others by not what you say, but what you do. Your impact begins with the positive influence you radiate."