



Roberto Vigotti

RES4Africa Foundation's Secretary General

Short bio

Roberto Vigotti is the Secretary General of RES4Africa Foundation, gathering more than 30 stakeholders from the clean energy value chain to accelerate Africa's RE transformation, supporting wider participation of private players in delivering investments in Africa, with Africa and for Africa.

In his 30+ year-long career he has covered various positions at Enel, University of Pisa, IEA and IRENA. When it was still considered an unlikely option, he was already convinced that deploying renewable energy in Africa would result in a positive socioeconomic impact for its population. In 2012, he therefore embarked on the RES4Africa adventure, to support a wider participation of private players in delivering investments in Africa.

At RES4Africa, he coordinates a number of activities aimed at transforming Africa's energy sector through public-private dialogue, market-driven analysis, training and capacity building activities, and on-field projects. He also coordinates renewAfrica, an industry-backed Initiative that advocates the creation of a European comprehensive Programme for RE investments in Africa, to be promoted and owned by EU institutions.

With a Master's Degree in 1971 in Electrical Engineering, Roberto Vigotti spent 35 years in Enel power company R&D Division, where he was involved in the field of ultra-high voltage transmission and from 1982 in the co-ordination of research and demonstration programmes in the field of new renewable energies. Representing Enel at Eurelectric, the association of European electric utilities, he created and was Chairman for 7 years the Renewables and Distributed Generation Working Group.

Dealing with the most relevant international bodies in the renewable energy sector, during his career he was delegate in the Renewable Working Party of International Energy Agency (IEA) since 1989, where he was Chair for 12 years and started the IEA PV power system cooperation agreement. He was also Coordinator of the RE Industry Advisory Board of IEA a network formed by the 28 world leading companies and association to support the Agency strategy and program of work Group (IEA- International Energy Agency) from 2012 until 2019.

Mr. Vigotti is also member of the Coalition for Action of IRENA.