



Renewable energy and biodiversity:

The challenges and opportunities of scaling up wind and solar

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• **Tuesday 3rd May 4.00pm–5.30pm** (Australian Western Standard Time)

The transition to ‘net zero’ carbon emissions will require huge upscaling of renewable energy, led by electricity generation from wind and solar. If not well planned and implemented, this scaling up could have significant impacts on nature, meaning that efforts to meet climate targets would undermine targets for biodiversity. Recent guidelines published by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and The Biodiversity Consultancy, *Mitigating biodiversity impacts associated with solar and wind energy development*, set out how projects can avoid and reduce impacts as well as taking steps to enhance biodiversity.

This presentation outlines the biodiversity challenges and opportunities for wind and solar, and the ways in which planners, lenders and developers can help to ensure a nature-positive energy transition.

Speaker



LEON BENNUN

Chief Scientist, The Biodiversity Consultancy (Cambridge, UK)

Leon Bennun works with business and finance to integrate biodiversity in development projects and value chains. Leon has three decades of experience in applying biodiversity science to improve policy and practice, with a particular focus on assessment and metrics, and has written extensive guidance for industry. He is a tropical ecologist by training and previously worked at BirdLife International and the National Museums of Kenya.