CLEAN ENERGY CAPACITY STUDY SUBMISSION BY DAVID MATABISHI Tuesday, 11 April 2023

The conceptual definition of the clean energy workforce can be ambiguous, as there is no universally agreed-upon definition of what constitutes clean energy. One way to provide clarity could be to develop a standardized definition that encompasses all clean energy technologies, including renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean transportation. Such a definition could also include criteria for the skills and qualifications required for workers in the sector.

Workers in clean energy supply could be identified in existing data by analysing industries and occupational classifications and matching them with relevant skills and qualifications.

Workers involved with energy use could also be identified in existing data by analysing industries and occupational classifications, but again, there may be gaps in data availability and consistency.

Jobs that require skills unique to the clean energy workforce include those related to the installation, operation, and maintenance of clean energy technologies such as solar, wind, and geothermal power systems, as well as energy-efficient building design and construction, and electric and hybrid vehicle production and maintenance.

Workers can obtain skills unique to the clean energy workforce through a combination of vocational education and training, higher education, on-the-job skilling, and other forms of professional development. The government should play a significant role in providing grants, scholarships, and subsidies to mitigate any barriers to study or upskilling.

As far as I am aware, there may be emerging occupations and industries in clean energy that are not well captured by current definitions. As the clean energy sector continues to evolve, it will be important to update and refine definitions to reflect new technologies and industry trends.