

REVIEW

FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

A PERIODIC BRIEF ON RENEWABLE ENERGY

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A GENDER PERSPECTIVE ON THE GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSFORMATION

The ongoing transformation of the energy system, driven by the widespread shift to renewables, is bringing far-reaching, systemic change to economies and societies worldwide. This offers important opportunities for greater inclusion and equality, recent research and analysis by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) has indicated.

Amid the accelerating changes in global energy use, the renewable energy industry needs to engage and retain more women – and promote them – to fill its growing needs for skills. Their leadership and contributions will be crucial to ensuring that the energy systems of the future address the needs of modern societies and leave no one behind.

The widespread adoption of renewables can alleviate poverty, create jobs, improve welfare and strengthen gender equality. Still, to fully realise this potential, the industry must tap a wider pool of talent – notably including that of women, who have been largely underrepresented thus far, depriving the energy transformation of critical capacities.

Gender equality, along with a wider sharing of the benefits from the global energy transformation, is not only a question of fundamental fairness. It is also essential to shaping positive social and economic development outcomes. Women provide valuable perspectives on key decisions, from investment priorities to project design.

Promoting gender equality and including gender considerations on all levels must become a high priority in both the public and private sectors.



Photograph from Abbie Trayler-Smith/Panos

RENEWABLE ENERGY BENEFITS

ENGENDERING THE ENERGY TRANSFORMATION

Key terms

- » **Gender mainstreaming:** The practice of assessing, in any planned law, policy, or programme, its differential implications for women and men with the ultimate goal of achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women
- » **Access context:** The deployment of renewables in areas presently without access to modern energy services including electricity and clean cooking fuels

The global energy transition offers an unprecedented opportunity to transform the energy sector in all aspects. The transition towards a renewable, distributed, decarbonised energy system is creating an array of social and economic benefits, including growing employment. IRENA estimates that the number of jobs in the sector could increase from 11 million in 2018 to nearly 42 million in 2050.

The sector offers diverse opportunities along the value chain, requiring different skill sets and talents. A key pillar of the energy transition should be to ensure that the opportunities it creates are equally accessible, and the benefits it bestows, equitably distributed.



Adopting a gender perspective to renewable energy development is critically important to ensure that women's contributions – their skills and views – represent an integral part of the growing industry. Increased women's engagement expands the talent pool for the renewables sector. Meanwhile, greater gender diversity also brings substantial co-benefits. Studies suggest that women bring new perspectives to the workplace and

improve collaboration, while increasing the number of qualified women in an organisation's leadership yields better performance overall. In the context of energy access, engaging women as active agents in deploying off-grid renewable energy solutions is known to improve sustainability and gender outcomes.

In recognition of these opportunities, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted in 2015 introduced a dedicated goal on gender equality, noting that the "systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the Agenda is crucial". Yet detailed information on the status and trends related to gender equality in the renewable energy sector remains sparse.

Renewable Energy and Gender - IRENA's Renewable Energy: A Gender Perspective aims to address this knowledge gap. It analyses the status of women's participation in the sector in two distinct deployment settings – the modern context (in which renewables displace or complement conventional energy) and the energy access context, which is characterised by efforts to expand access to modern energy services.

Underpinning the report are quantitative and qualitative insights from a global online survey conducted by IRENA in 2018, complemented by findings from the literature. The multi-stakeholder survey attracted close to 1500 respondents from 144 countries working for private companies, government agencies, non-governmental organisations, academic institutions, and other entities. The findings from the survey offer a glimpse into the current status of women's participation in the sector and provide insights on what measures are needed, and by whom, to "engender" the energy transition.

Women in Renewable Energy: Access Context – Energy access and gender are deeply entwined components of the global development agenda. The transformative effect on women of access to affordable, reliable and sustainable modern energy is well-known. Energy access frees up time for women who otherwise may spend an average of 100 hours a year collecting fuel wood and gives them more flexibility in sequencing tasks, since lighting allows them to do more at night. It also improves access to public services and opens new opportunities for part-time work and income-generating activities.

The distributed nature of off-grid renewable energy solutions offers tremendous opportunities for women's engagement along multiple segments of the value chain. Many of the skills needed to take advantage of those opportunities can be developed locally and women are ideally placed to lead and support the delivery of energy solutions, especially in view of their role as primary energy users and their social networks.

As women become engaged in delivering energy solutions, they take on more active roles in their communities and consequently facilitate a gradual shift in the social and cultural norms that previously acted as barriers to their agency.

Barriers to Engagement – Over two-thirds of survey respondents noted that women face barriers to participation in the renewables-based energy access sector. Cultural and social norms were cited by respondents as the most common barrier, followed by lack of gender-sensitive policies and training opportunities and inequity in ownership of assets. Security and the remoteness of field locations were also mentioned as other barriers to participation. Interestingly, cultural and social norms was the barrier selected more often by respondents in Europe and North America, while respondents from other regions were much more likely to select the lack of skills and training as important barriers in the access context.



Policies and Solutions – In identifying solutions, respondents highlighted first the importance of access to education and training. Training is often an integral part of energy access programmes, but greater efforts are needed to make them more accessible to women. Training sessions must be tailored and scheduled around women's childcare responsibilities and be sensitive to mobility constraints, security concerns and social restrictions that may prohibit women from participating.

Over half of the respondents also cited improving access to finance and mainstreaming gender in access programmes as measures to support women's engagement in the sector. Dedicated financing schemes are particularly important if women are to play an active role in the off-grid renewables value chain (e.g., as technology distributors) and tap into the entire spectrum of opportunities created by modern energy access (e.g., investments in productive appliances).

Opportunities and gaps will become evident if gender is mainstreamed at the level of energy access policies, programmes and projects. Gender audits, as tools, can ensure due consideration of the known gender differences in household decision making, preferences and priorities.

Advancing equality and diversity in the energy sector is a compelling proposition rather than a zero-sum game. Establishing gender as a pillar of energy strategies at the national and global levels will produce a swifter and more inclusive transition to renewable energy while accelerating the attainment of multiple Sustainable Development Goals.



Further reading:

Renewable Energy: A Gender Perspective (IRENA, 2019)

POLICY COMPASS

MEASURES TO IMPROVE WOMEN'S ENGAGEMENT IN THE RENEWABLES SECTOR

The link between gender inclusion and energy access is now well established. Accordingly, stakeholders are paying more attention to the gender dimension in energy access and within the wider development agenda. While the gender differentiated effect on women of poor access to modern energy is well understood and increasingly recognised, women's role as agents of change to scale up the adoption of off-grid renewable energy solutions has not yet been mainstreamed (UN Women, 2016).

1. IMPROVE ACCESS TO TRAINING AND SKILLS-DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

- » **Raising awareness of opportunities and access to necessary technical, business or leadership skills** is a key prerequisite if women are to play an active role in the deployment of off-grid renewable energy solutions.
- » **Consider cultural and social norms, and the traditional roles fulfilled by women in rural communities** – Training and coaching programmes need to be customised to local contexts, the needs of women and informal businesses, and the communication medium most suitable for women.
- » **Broaden training in business, financing and leadership skills, product standards, and quality control** – Marketing skills are especially needed for renewable energy technologies such as solar home systems and solar lanterns. Training for women entrepreneurs that combines finance and business training is more effective than either finance or business training alone.
- » **Develop certification programmes** to standardise competencies for specific roles, support delivery of quality training, increase employability and enhance market sustainability.

2. INTEGRATE GENDER IN ENERGY ACCESS PROGRAMMES

- » **Highlight gender considerations in national energy access strategies and plans** – Gender audits, can assess the capacities or potential to mainstream gender within public sector ministries, energy policies, implementation frameworks and budgets.
- » **Promote interaction between different sectors, such as primary health, education and water** to boost women's economic empowerment and formulate solutions that look at the entire ecosystem and maximise the benefits.

3. FOSTER WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS AND IMPROVE ACCESS TO FINANCE

- » **Institute training and mentoring programmes focusing on technical, financial and leadership skills** – Such programmes enable women to identify viable business opportunities, form useful networks to expand their business activities, devise effective market strategies and ease their inhibitions on taking on leadership roles.
- » **Improve access to affordable finance** – Factors inhibiting access to financing for women include lack of access to banking services, limited awareness of financial schemes, lack of banker's confidence in renewables and/or women-owned enterprises, and confidence issues among rural women to conduct financial transactions.
- » **Encourage private sector partnerships with women-led enterprises** – Partnering with women entrepreneurs is a mutually beneficial option to address market barriers, as women often have extensive local networks, specialised skills and an in-depth understanding of local markets.

4. IMPROVE THE COLLECTION OF GENDER-DISAGGREGATED DATA

- » **Formulate data-informed policies** – Gender-disaggregated data underpins the development of gender-sensitive targets and indicators that subsequently inform programmes and policies. Data-informed policies are crucial to effectively address women's needs and abilities to be active agents in the success of energy programmes.
- » **Collect and analyse both qualitative and quantitative data** for the differences between men and women across social, economic, environmental, political and cultural dimensions to be fully grasped. Household survey data, for example, provides a better picture of energy access than data from service providers.

Further reading:

Renewable Energy: A Gender Perspective, Chapter 3 (IRENA)

POINT OF VIEW

Leila Ouled Ali, Member of Parliament, Tunisia

I am a firm believer in the democratisation of clean energy services, and defended Law No. 12 of 2015 (“New Law”), which encourages private investment in electricity generation from renewable energy sources, and organises regulatory measures into three categories: Self-consumption, Independent Power Production (IPP) for local consumption, and Export production.

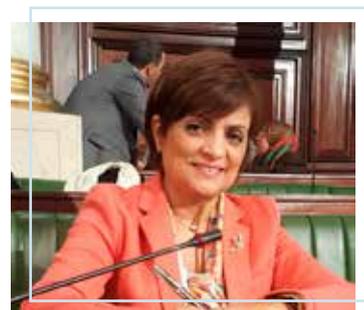
This year, with the support of the Ministry of Energy, I initiated an amendment to the New Law to further remove barriers that hinder investments in IPPs, thereby allowing private industrialists to participate in the production and transmission of their own energy needs alongside the state power utility, STEG. This amendment, which will allow for the immediate launch of investments worth 2.5 billion Tunisian Dinar (USD 874 million), has the potential to revolutionise the energy sector in Tunisia. I continue to work tirelessly to accelerate the pace of achieving our goal of 30% renewable energy share in the energy mix by 2030 through interventions in Parliament and oral questions addressed to the Minister of Energy. In 2018, I authored an amendment lowering customs duties on imports of solar photovoltaic systems.

It is not easy for a woman in parliament to achieve continued success, especially when defending an initiative that is unusual or controversial. Nevertheless, I continue to persevere through hard work, understanding, patience and composure. Since the beginning of my mandate, I have honoured my commitment to constituents to push for the development of renewable energy in Tunisia, and this is precisely what keeps me moving forward. I have personally faced resistance from other deputies, but there have also been moments when we have come together with a strong legislative voice. As parliamentarians, it is important for us to back our speeches with concrete change, and this goes beyond party lines. I consider myself a Member of State, not a Member of Parliament.

So Yuk Choy, Member of Parliament, China

I am one of the pioneers of environmental issues and renewable energy in Hong Kong, and have been particularly active in submitting proposals for the amendment of laws. Following an inspection tour on the implementation of the Air Pollution Law, for example, 90% of the proposal for amendment that I had submitted was reflected in the newly-amended law. This success rate not only requires a strong belief in environmental protection, but also a keen understanding of the legal, political and transnational environment. Working with civil society groups helps me achieve this understanding, and in the field of renewable energy I work closely with four women from green groups and industry associations. This partnership not only strengthens the democratic process, but also results in proposals that are widely accepted by the government, environmentalists and industry actors, which I hope could be more widely applied elsewhere.

In terms of participation in the renewable energy industry, women in Hong Kong are dominant figures in green groups and environmental affairs. In order to increase gender balance in China, the National People’s Congress of China (NPC) has instituted a 20% target proportion of female deputies. Aided by other requirements for inclusion of grassroots representatives and minority groups, its current session has successfully exceeded this target. While female deputies are usually outnumbered by men, we are generally more comfortable with voicing our opinions and pushing for new policies. As a pioneer in this field, shaping environmental policies has required hard work and perseverance. However, the pride that comes with it, and the benefits accrued by society, motivates me to achieve continued success.



Leila Ouled Ali has been an elected member of the Tunisian Parliament since 2014 and is the Vice-President of the Energy, Industry, Infrastructure and Environment Committee.

She created a parliamentary network for sustainable development across party lines in order to sensitise and assist parliamentarians in implementing sustainable development laws. The network, which has produced over 100 amendments covering Sustainable Development Goals, has earned acclaim by NDI and ESCAWA.



So Yuk Choy has dedicated over 20 years of her political career to the development of environmental policies. During her time as an elected member of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong, she served a seven-year tenure as the Chair of the Council’s Environmental Panel. She is currently serving her third term as a Hong Kong Deputy to the National People’s Congress of China, having submitted over 50 proposals on renewable energy, air pollution, climate change and environment.

As the China Advisor to the Climate Parliament, she was instrumental in organising the first International Parliamentary Hearing on Climate Change in Shanghai, gathering over 100 participants from more than 20 countries and several regions.

IN FOCUS

GENDER EQUALITY FOR AN INCLUSIVE TRANSFORMATION

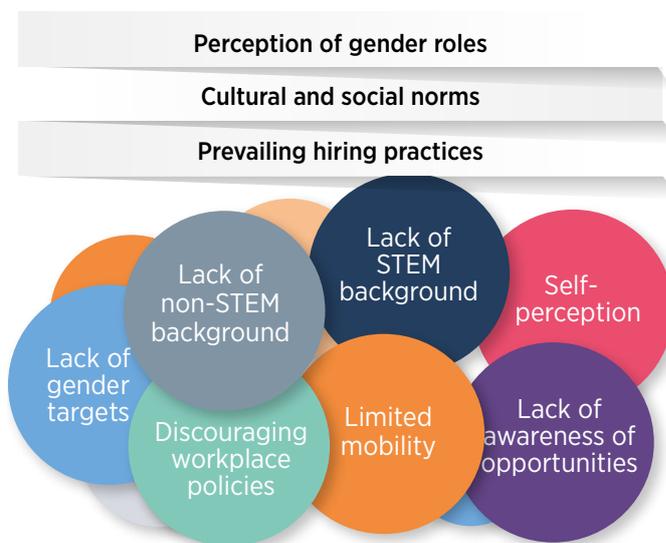
- » **Women represent 32% of the renewable energy workforce, substantially higher than the 22% average in the global oil and gas industry, IRENA’s survey found;**
- » **Men outnumber women in most workplaces related to renewables, especially in technical, managerial and policy-making positions;**
- » **Energy access frees up time for women in many developing countries, who otherwise may spend an average of 100 hours a year collecting fuel wood, and gives them more flexibility in sequencing tasks, since lighting allows them to do more at night.**

The global energy landscape is witnessing a rapid and wide-ranging change driven by an unprecedented growth of renewables. This transformation enables an array of social and economic benefits, including growing employment. IRENA estimates that the number of jobs in the sector could increase from 11 million in 2018 to nearly 42 million in 2050. The renewable energy sector offers diverse career opportunities along the value chain, requiring different skill sets and talents. The greater participation of women would allow this rapidly growing sector to draw on untapped female talents while ensuring the socially fair distribution of socio-economic opportunities of the global energy transformation

The socio-economic dividends of gender mainstreaming are immense, with improvements in women’s self-perception and empowerment within the community

IRENA’s report Renewable Energy: A Gender Perspective reveals that women represent 32% of workers in renewables, compared to 22% reported in traditional

energy industries like oil and gas and over 48% in global labour force participation. Presented to IRENA Members during a Special Evening Event at the ninth Assembly which took place in Abu Dhabi earlier this year, the study, based on responses from nearly 1,500 participants in 144 countries, is one of the largest surveys conducted on gender in renewable energy to date. It further highlights significant opportunities for a greater gender balance in the global energy transformation.



Tackling cultural and social perceptions of gender roles – Adopting a gender perspective to renewables development is important to ensure that women’s skills and views are part of the growing industry, participants in the survey recommend. Responses show that 75% of women, but only 40% of men, perceive the existence of barriers to women’s entry and advancement in the sector. The survey shows a similar gap about wage equity along gender lines: 60% of male respondents assume pay equity between women and men versus only 29% of female respondents. “Women are often offered positions and say no because they believe they cannot do it”, said María Fernanda Suárez, Energy Minister of Colombia, encouraging women to be bold.

“We tell employers to employ women,” agreed Habiba Ali, CEO of Sosai Renewable Energies in Nigeria, “and we tell women to stand up and say: I can do it.” Fiame Naomi Mata’afa, Deputy Prime Minister of Samoa, confirmed, “Gender equality is about social attitude. If this doesn’t change, nothing will move on”.

“The fact that we are talking about gender in 2019 is shameful”, echoed Harish Hande, Co-Founder of Selco India, asserting full support for gender equality in business.

Supporting gender equality in renewable energy employment – Greater gender diversity brings substantial co-benefits, the survey finds. Mainstreaming gender perspectives, adopting gender-sensitive policies and tailoring training and skills development can help increase women’s engagement and ensure that women’s perspectives are fully articulated.

Speaking at the Evening event, Gauri Singh from the Public Health & Family Welfare Department at the Renewable Energy Corporation for India’s Madhya Pradesh state, agreed, calling on communities to empower women. “We need clear and equal rules”, added Gabriela Cuevas Barron, Senator from Mexico and President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). “We have to set up an ecosystem that allows women to combine the professional with family life”.

Socio-economic benefits of engendering the energy transformation – Women bring new perspectives to the workplace and improve collaboration, while increasing the number of qualified women in an organisation’s leadership yields better performance overall. In the context of energy access, engaging women as active agents in deploying off-grid renewable energy solutions is known to improve sustainability and maximise the socio-economic benefits. “We don’t achieve our Sustainable Energy for All agenda if we don’t advance on gender balance”, Sheila Oparaocha, International Coordinator and Programme Manager at ENERGIA Hivos, noted, suggesting the time has come to “start building the business case”.



IRENA’s survey reveals that modern energy access reduces drudgery, improves well-being and frees up time for women and girls to seek an education and engage in income-generating activities. Women are ideally placed to lead and support the delivery of off-grid energy solutions, especially in view of their role as primary energy users within the household as well as their social networks. Actively engaging women in deploying off-grid renewable energy solutions requires a particular focus on training and skills development, followed by access to finance and mainstreaming gender in energy access programmes, according to the survey respondents. The socio-economic dividends of gender mainstreaming are immense; with several examples covered in the report suggesting improvements in women’s self-perception and empowerment within the community.

Advancing a holistic, democratised energy future – During the evening’s panel discussion, Kudakwashe Ndhlukula, Executive Director at the Southern Africa Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, added that “from a renewables-side, we traditionally see women as victims. Now, we focus on ensuring that the benefits are shared equally.” Shawn Tupper, Associate Deputy Minister from Natural Resources Canada confirmed that the new and 160th Member of IRENA intends to advance the gender agenda internationally together with its partners.

While the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development specifically dedicates one goal to gender equality, detailed information related to gender equality in the renewable energy sector remains sparse. Renewable Energy: A Gender Perspective aims to contribute to filling this knowledge gap. Findings from the survey offer a glimpse into the current status of women’s participation in the sector and provide insights on what measures are needed, and by whom, to “engender” the energy transition.

Gender entry points in the development of renewable energy mini-grids

Further reading:

The International Conference on Renewable Energy Solutions for Healthcare Facilities

CASE STUDIES



ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS)

In 2013, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) established its Programme on Gender Mainstreaming in Energy Access to assess differential implications in the formulation of policy, as well as the design and implementation of energy projects and programmes across West Africa. Under this programme, a dedicated policy for mainstreaming gender in energy access aims to ensure that the 2030 objective of universal modern energy access is met by making women part of the solution, leveraging the role of women as energy users, community members, business owners and policy makers.

The policy, endorsed in 2015, is now under implementation. A legal directive mandating gender assessments in energy projects was validated by energy regulators in 2017, although the directive provides flexibility for each ECOWAS member state to determine how to integrate the provisions into existing legislation.

The progress in West Africa has been used as a blueprint for others, with the East African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency publishing its Gender and Sustainable Energy Situation Analysis in 2018. This baseline study on gender and women's empowerment in East Africa identifies barriers and achievements to gender equality, and examines the policies and regulatory frameworks that support gender mainstreaming and the mobilisation of support for women's engagement in the energy sector.



INDIA

Since 2013, the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) has provided a special energy loan product for communities with limited access to electricity under the SEWA Bharat programme, which began by providing basic lighting services through solar home lighting systems in rural households. SEWA then established a co-operative livelihood opportunity for women based on energy access, establishing a company that employs women to market, sell, install and service home lighting systems. SEWA also connects women to financing options through the Thrift and Credit cooperative, providing affordable payment options so that women can invest in their livelihood options, family education and household safety.

Through the SEWA Bharat programme, over 83,000 litres of kerosene have been saved annually by 20,000 beneficiaries. Additionally, over 232,600 kilograms of carbon emissions have been reduced annually.



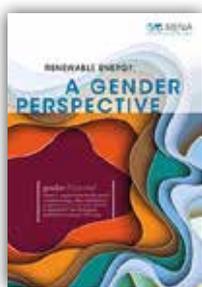
BURKINA FASO

Burkina Faso's traditional small-scale beer-brewing sector is predominantly led by women and is an important source of income for rural women. But poorly designed, inefficient cook stoves cause health problems and require longer cooking times and higher fuel consumption.

In 2012, through a partnership between the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Global Environment Fund, and United Nations Industrial Development Organisation, a programme to install over 500 energy-efficient cook stoves reached an estimated 800 women by helping them build clusters that identify and promote their business development priorities including financial management, technology upgrading and improving the hygiene of the production. The women were grouped together in associations and encouraged to use self-help groups to finance the purchase of improved cook stoves. The programme also establishes a credit risk guarantee mechanism to help women access additional financing. They were also trained on how to operate and maintain the energy-efficient cook stoves. The women were also motivated to initiate the formation of a nationwide federation for beer brewers to pursue the common interests of women working in the sector.

Following the implementation of the programme, women's profits and income increased and they had more social standing within their communities. The high efficiency of the cook stoves also reduced the amount of firewood required by over 40%, thus also reducing the health risks and physical or sexual assault risks to women collecting firewood.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS



RENEWABLE ENERGY: A GENDER PERSPECTIVE

This report from IRENA examines the question of gender equity throughout the renewable energy sector. Building on a ground-breaking survey of employees, companies and institutions, it finds that much remains to be done to boost women's participation and allow their talents to be fully utilised.

(IRENA, January 2019)



RENEWABLE ENERGY AND JOBS – ANNUAL REVIEW 2019

The renewable energy sector employed at least 11 million people, directly and indirectly, last year. The total includes, for the first time, a fuller estimate of off-grid solar in parts of the developing world. This sixth edition in the series provides the latest available estimates and calculations on renewable energy employment. It represents an on-going effort to refine and improve data and methodologies.

(IRENA, June 2019)



RENEWABLE ENERGY STATISTICS 2019

IRENA produces comprehensive, reliable data on renewable energy capacity and use worldwide. Building on the Agency's growing body of work on the topic, this brief provides data sets on power-generation capacity for 2009-2018, actual power generation for 2009-2017 and renewable energy balances for over 130 countries and areas for 2016-2017. Data was obtained from a variety of sources, including an IRENA questionnaire, official national statistics, industry association reports, consultant reports and news articles. An accompanying Renewable energy highlights brief notes major trends in the sector worldwide.

(IRENA, July 2019)



REVIEW FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS: PREVIOUS ISSUE

ISSUE 9 — INSIGHTS FROM THE FOURTH IRENA LEGISLATORS FORUM

This edition gives a full account of the discussions held during the fourth IRENA Legislators Forum held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, in conjunction with the Agency's ninth annual Assembly. Parliamentarians from over 30 countries gathered to discuss challenges and opportunities in the renewable energy sector, with a special focus on bridging the energy access gap in Africa.

English Français Español

IRENA STATEMENT ON GENDER AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

Participants at a special event, “Gender in the Energy Transformation”, held on 12 January 2019 during the ninth session of the IRENA Assembly have adopted the IRENA Statement on Gender and Renewable Energy:

The on-going energy transformation, driven by the imperatives of sustainable development and climate change, is bringing far-reaching change to our societies. Renewables are the backbone of this transformation, offering us the opportunity to create energy systems that can reconcile social, developmental, environmental and climate objectives. It is an opportunity that we must seize to build more inclusive, equal and prosperous societies.

Sustainable Development Goal 5 places the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls at the heart of the United Nations 2030 Agenda. Renewables can play a significant role in this respect. As a powerful vehicle for development, they can have a transformative impact on the inclusion and livelihoods of women, including in the access context.

Women’s equal participation in all aspects of the on-going transformation is a question of fundamental fairness. Women’s perspectives, expertise and leadership are also critical to ensuring informed and inclusive decision-making and a larger pool of talent in the renewable energy sector.

We welcome IRENA’s report on Renewable Energy: A Gender Perspective, which examines barriers to women’s participation in the renewable energy sector and outlines action areas to address the gender gap.

We appreciate that the share of women in the renewable energy sector is higher than in the conventional energy sector. We also recognise that it is still lagging behind.

We believe in the importance of strengthening international co-operation to advance gender equality in the energy transformation and commit to undertake the following:

1. Raise awareness about the centrality of gender equality and the increased participation of women to achieve an inclusive and fair energy transformation at the local, national, regional and international levels;
2. Share experiences and best practices related to policies, programs and initiatives that encourage and promote women’s participation, leadership and decision-making in the renewable energy sector;
3. Foster women’s economic empowerment by increasing access to investments and capacity building in entrepreneurship and employment in the renewable energy sector;
4. Support further analysis and collection of gender-disaggregated data in the renewable energy sector, including, among others, the use of indicators, monitoring and evaluation methodologies, and the analysis of gender-focused statistics;
5. Strengthen collaboration at all levels to overcome barriers facing women’s participation in the renewable energy sector.

We call on IRENA to continue to inform evidence-based policy-making on the inclusion of women in the energy sector and to continue collaborating with other organisations and networks.



Panelists of the special event, “Gender in the Energy Transformation”



The Legislators Forum, IRENA's initiative in parliamentary engagement, is a global platform of exchange for members of parliament. IRENA facilitates dialogue among peers, with experts, and with other key stakeholders to align actions to accelerate the energy transformation and play a decisive role in achieving sustainable development and a climate safe future. In just a few years, the Legislators Forum has seen an increasing number of participants and countries represented - a testimony to the growing interest of parliamentarians in raising ambition and actively engaging in the promotion of renewable energy.

“The time has come for us in parliaments to take the leadership and begin to action these agreements and goals. To do so will require true partnerships between parliaments and other branches of government, and key international organisations, such as IRENA”

H.E. Dr Amal Al Qubaisi, Speaker of the UAE Federal National Council

“In many constituencies, parliaments have the power to legislate, hold the government to account, and allocate resources for relevant policies. The renewable energy sector is one where parliamentarians and legislators in the world can make a huge difference”

Martin Chungong, Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

SAVE THE DATE

5TH IRENA LEGISLATORS FORUM

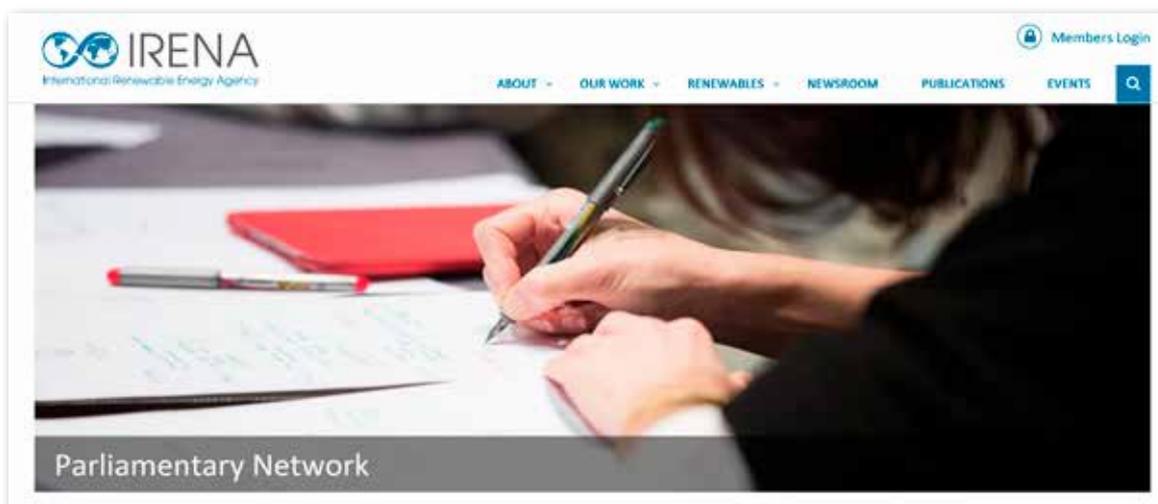
10 JANUARY 2020

ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Express your interest to participate by sending an email to legislators@irena.org

The 5th IRENA Legislators Forum will take place in Abu Dhabi, UAE on 10 January 2020. Hosted in conjunction with the 10th Session of the IRENA Assembly, this forthcoming edition is taking place at a time of great opportunity as the global energy transformation continues to be driven by the dual imperatives of limiting climate change and fostering sustainable growth. Renewable energy has now emerged as a key solution to address climate change, and our most practical climate action tool. With that in mind, the IRENA Legislators Forum will take an in-depth look at challenges and successes countries are facing in the road towards a sustainable energy future, with a specific focus being placed on the role of members of parliament and communities in the energy transformation, and the benefits that may be attained from it.

ENGAGING WITH IRENA THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



RReview for Parliamentarians



Legislators Forum



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