

IRENA Renewable Energy Jobs Conference

21st January 2014

World Future Energy Summit, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Background

The employment dimension of renewable energy development is receiving growing attention. Around the world, policy makers are pursuing renewable energy technologies not only for greater energy security or environmental considerations, but also for the socio-economic benefits they can generate. The renewable energy sector has become a significant employer, with the potential for adding millions of jobs worldwide in the coming years. IRENA estimates that 5.7 million people were employed in the renewable energy sector globally in 2012¹.

A broad range of policies influence renewable energy job creation. These include policies governing renewable energy deployment, trade, investment, research and development, as well as regional development and cluster formation. Such policies are most effective when they are pursued in conjunction with each other and in the context of broader economic policies (industrial, labour, fiscal, etc.). The successful deployment of renewable energy technologies will also require close coordination with education and training policies to meet the expected high demand for qualified human resources in the sector.

In addition to national and local energy access programmes, several global initiatives are mobilising action towards achieving the goal of universal energy access by 2030. The deployment of decentralised renewable energy solutions has the potential to create considerable value locally both in terms of employment and economic growth opportunities. Spanning across the entire range of policies, the gender dimension of the renewable energy equation can help simultaneously address the skill shortages while maximising socio-economic benefits.

The IRENA Renewable Energy Jobs Conference

The **IRENA Renewable Energy Jobs Conference** will be held in Abu Dhabi on the 21st of January 2014 alongside the World Future Energy Summit (WFES). It will discuss how the renewable energy sector has become a significant employer with the potential for adding millions of jobs worldwide in the coming years. The conference is open to experts, practitioners, academics and other stakeholders from the private and the public sector. It will be the first on this topic and will provide a platform for experts and policymakers to share knowledge, experiences and best practices on all aspects of renewable energy job creation. The conference will provide insights, among others, into:

- The latest trends and dynamics in renewable energy job creation;
- The potential for job creation along the different segments of the value chain;
- The policy environment that can best maximize the potential for jobs;
- The education, training, and skills required alongside the deployment of renewable energy technologies;
- The local development benefits linked to renewable energy applications in rural areas, including the empowerment of local communities and women.

¹ Due to data availability, this estimate excludes large hydropower and traditional biomass

Agenda

08:30 - 9:30	Registration	
9:30 - 10:15	Opening session welcome remarks	
	<p>Mr. Adnan Z. Amin, Director-General, IRENA</p> <p>Mr. Liu Qi, Vice Administrator, Chinese National Energy Administration (NEA)</p> <p>HE. Abdelkader Amara, Minister of Energy, Mines Water and Environment, Ministry of Energy, Mines Water and Environment, Morocco (tbc)</p> <p>Mr. Edwin Quintanilla Acosta, Vice-Minister of Energy, Ministry of Energy and Mines, Peru (tbc)</p> <p>Mr. Karsten Sach, Deputy Director General, International Cooperation, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)</p> <p>HE Dr. Khalid Al Sulaiman, Vice President for Renewable Energy, King Abdullah City for Atomic and Renewable Energy (K.A. CARE), Saudi Arabia (tbc)</p>	
10:15 - 10:30	Keynote speech: IRENA Renewable Energy and Jobs report	
	Mr. Adnan Z. Amin, Director-General, IRENA	
Session 1	Renewable energy jobs – Global dynamics	
10:30 - 11:30	Moderator	Mr. Adil Najam, Professor, Boston University
	Presenter	Mr. Michael Renner, Worldwatch Institute (WWI)
	<u>Panelists</u>	
	<i>Institution</i>	Mr. Arthouros Zervos, Chair, Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21)
		Mr. Hugo Lucas, Director Knowledge, Policy and Finance Centre, IRENA
		Ms. Marlene O'Sullivan, Research Associate, Project Manager, Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V. (DLR)
	<i>Private sector</i>	Mr. Francesco Starace, Chief Executive Officer, ENEL Green Power
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee Break	

<p>Session 2</p> <p>12:00 - 13:00</p>	<p>Enabling policies for renewable energy job creation</p> <p>Moderator Mr. Martin Schöpe, Head of Division, International Affairs of Renewable Energy, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)</p> <p>Presenter Ms. Rabia Ferroukhi, Senior Programme Officer, IRENA</p> <p><u>Panelists</u></p> <p><i>Institution</i> Mr. Matthew Kennedy, Co-chair of the International Energy Agency's Renewable Energy Technology Deployment (IEA-RETD) Ms. Georgeta Vidican, Senior Researcher, German Development Institute (DIE)</p> <p><i>Public sector</i> Mr. Wang Zhongying, Director, Chinese National Renewable Energy Center Mr. Ramon Mendez, Secretary of Energy, Ministry of industry, Energy and Mining of Uruguay</p> <p><i>Private sector</i> Mr. Tim Richards, Managing Director – Government Affairs and Policy, General Electric (GE) Middle East, North Africa and Turkey</p>
<p>13:00 – 14:30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch</p> <p>Side event on methodology to measure employment from renewable energy Ms. Ulrike Lehr, Team Leader, Institute of Economic Structures Research (GWS) Ms. Barbara Breitschopf, Team Leader, Fraunhofer ISI</p>
<p>Session 3</p> <p>14:30 - 15:30</p>	<p>Renewable energy skills, occupations, education and training</p> <p>Moderator Mr. Frank Wouters, Deputy Director-General, IRENA</p> <p>Presenter Mr. Hugo Lucas, Director Knowledge, Policy and Finance Centre, IRENA</p> <p><u>Panelists</u></p> <p><i>Institution</i> Ms. Paola Mazzucchelli, Secretary General, The Association of European Renewable Energy Research Centres (EUREC) Ms. Olga Striestka-Ilina, Senior Specialist in Skills Policies and Systems, International Labour Organization (ILO) Mr. Kristian Petrick, Consultant, All Green Energies and IEA-RETD</p> <p><i>Public sector</i> Mr. Ali Askar Sher Mohamad, Chief Operating Officer at Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA) Malaysia</p> <p><i>Private sector</i> Mr. Gerard McGovern, Quality Manager, BZEE Academy Mr. Axel von Perfall, Managing Director, Alingho</p>
<p>15:30 – 16:00</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Coffee Break</p>

<p>Session 4 16:00 - 17:00</p>	<p>Job creation in the context of energy access and the gender dimension of renewable energy employment</p> <p>Moderator Mr. Ben Good, Chief Executive Officer, Global Village Energy Partnership (GVEP) International</p> <p>Presenter Ms. Soma Dutta, Senior Technical Advisor, ENERGIA</p> <p><u>Panelists</u></p> <p><i>Institution</i> Mr. Dipal Chandra Barua, Co-founder, Grameen Bank Ms. Dominique Lallement, Consultant</p> <p><i>Public sector</i> Ms. Jesca Eriyo, Deputy Secretary General, East African Community (EAC)</p> <p><i>Private sector</i> Mr. Harish Hande, Managing Director, Selco</p>
<p>Session 5 17:00 - 18:00</p>	<p>Socio-economic benefits of renewable energy deployment in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)</p> <p>Moderator Ms. Rabia Ferroukhi, Senior Programme Officer, IRENA</p> <p>Presenter Ms. Roula Majdalani, Director, Sustainable Development and Productivity, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)</p> <p><u>Panelists</u></p> <p><i>Institution</i> Mr. Ibrahim Babelli, Chief Strategist, K.A.CARE</p> <p><i>Public sector</i> Mr. Thani Al Zayoudi, Director, Directorate of Energy and Climate Change at the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p><i>Private sector</i> Mr. Paddy Padmanathan, President and Chief Executive Officer, ACWA Power Mr. Ahmed Nada, Vice President of Business Development for the Middle East, First Solar</p>
<p>18:00 – 18:30</p>	<p>Concluding remarks and the way forward</p> <p>Mr. Adnan Z. Amin, Director-General, IRENA</p>
<p>18:30 – 20:00</p>	<p>Networking Reception</p>