



3rd Capacity-building Hub PCCB Focus Area Day

International Renewable Energy Agency Capacity Building: Energy Transition for Climate Action Concept Note

Background:

In December 2015, all parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) agreed to limit the rise in the global average temperature to well below the 2°C, above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels by the end of the present century. With fossil fuel consumption by the energy sector responsible for two-thirds of all greenhouse gas emissions, renewable energy is vital in addressing the defining challenge of our times: climate change. Consensus has formed that an energy transition grounded in renewable sources and technologies that increases efficiency and conservation is the only way to support the fight against global warming to 1.5°C by 2050.

Several countries have revised their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) which include increased mitigation ambition targets for renewables and/or enhanced energy transition actions. As of the third quarter of 2021, 112 parties to the Paris Agreement had already submitted their revised NDCs. Of the total 191 parties having submitted NDCs, 141 (or 74% of the total) included quantified renewable energy targets for the power sector, while only 63 parties (33%) included targets for direct heat and transport, thus leaving the potential of renewables in end uses largely untapped. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), which is dedicated to promoting renewables as a key climate solution, has supported human and institutional capacity development in 70 countries around the world on NDC enhancement and implementation, as well as with long-term decarbonization pathways to 2050.

IRENA is committed to increasing momentum on climate ambition as a resilient-and-equitable-recovery, an essential component to a successful economic recovery to promote the implementation of energy-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development in line with the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (2014–2024), including the global plan of action for the Decade, the High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development. IRENA has organized a range of events, webinars and dialogues on NDCs and climate action to showcase the regional and country-level impact of climate change and to elicit discussion on options to mitigate these impacts and ensure long-term sustainability. To that end, IRENA will continue to support countries vulnerable to the effects of climate change. IRENA and ADFD have launched the Energy Transition Accelerator Platform, a climate financing platform initiative seeking to mobilize USD 1 billion in renewable energy financing by 2030.





In this context, IRENA aims to organize a global hybrid event during the 3rd Capacity-building Hub hosted by the Paris Committee on Capacity Building on the side lines of COP26, titled “**Capacity Building: Energy Transition for Climate Action**”. This provides a global forum for the discussion for driving the energy transition and building momentum on climate action, sharing best practices and exploring the key role countries will take to align short-term measures with long-term goals, how ETAF platform can be leveraged to support project development.

Objectives:

The hybrid event will aim to serve as a platform for exchanging experiences, lessons learnt and for sharing of best practices from supporting and building human and institutional capacity for the NDCs review process, as well as to understand the linkages between NDCs, long-term strategies and the post-COVID 19 economic recovery plans. The dialogue will focus on the following areas:

- Encourage ambitious climate action by all governments, including long-term climate/energy strategies, in support of the goals set out in the Paris Agreement.
- Share best practices and experiences on capacities for national energy systems transformation required to achieve and advance the GHG reduction targets in NDCs.
- Lessons learned and knowledge gained on capacity for addressing challenges in aligning short-term measures with long-term goals.

Format:

Venue: 3rd Capacity-building Hub within COP26 (Blue zone)

Location: Glasgow, UK

Date: November 10th, 2021, Wednesday

Length: 60 minutes; 0900 am Glasgow

Language: English

0900 – 0910	<u>Introductory Remarks</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Francesco La Camera, Director General, IRENA- Keynote remarks by UAE* (TBC)
0915 – 0922	<u>Presentation: Climate Action with Renewables</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gurbuz Gonul, Director Country Engagement and Partnerships, IRENA





0922 – 0950	<p><u>Panel Discussion</u></p> <p>Moderator: Diann Black-Layne, Ambassador for Climate Change, Antigua & Barbuda, Chief Negotiator of Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) Group on Climate Change</p> <p><u>Key interventions from Panel of IRENA member countries:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tanguy Bekele, Adviser to President, Chair of Africa Group of Negotiators, Gabon - Sonam P. Wangdi, Secretary of National Environment Commission, Royal Government of Bhutan and Chair of Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group on Climate Change, Bhutan - Ahmadou Seborny Toure, Chair (G77+China), Guinea - Rosilena Lindo Riggs, Undersecretary of Energy, National Secretary of Energy, Panama - Ofa Sefana, Director of Energy, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Tonga - Naser Nuredini, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning, North Macedonia -
0950 – 1000	<p><u>Closing Remarks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ahmed Badr, Director Project Facilitation Support, IRENA

General Structure:

Speakers		
Name	Role	Affiliation/Organization
Tanguy Bekele	Adviser to President	Gabon
Sonam P. Wangdi	Secretary of National Environment Commission, Royal Government of Bhutan and Chair of Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group on Climate Change	Bhutan





Ahmadou Sebory Toure	Chair (G77+China)	Guinea
Rosilena Lindo Riggs	Undersecretary of Energy	Panama
Ofa Sefana	Director of Energy	Tonga
Naser Nuredini	Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning	North Macedonia
Francesco La Camera	Director General	IRENA
Gurbuz Gonul	Director Country Engagement and Partnerships	IRENA
Ahmed Badr	Director, Project Facilitation and Support	IRENA

Moderators		
Name	Role	Affiliation/Organization
Diann Black-Layne	Ambassador for Climate Change	Chief Negotiator of Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) Group on Climate Change

Outcomes:

- The event will feature the importance of gender mainstreaming in energy sector frameworks at all levels , including policy making, programme design and project implementation.

Relevant Links:

<https://www.irena.org/>

