

Fifteenth session of the IRENA Assembly

Side Event

12 January 2025, 13:00 – 14:30 GST
St. Regis Hotel, Saadiyat Island, Abu Dhabi

Policy Recommendations for Achieving 100% Renewable Energy by 2050

Background

In the next crucial decade, **limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C depends on swift action** to fully decarbonise the energy system, implement robust energy efficiency measures, strengthen energy infrastructure and electrify end-use sectors. Despite numerous calls for action and climate warnings, the energy transition lags, leading to soaring emissions and an unavoidable and impactful climate crisis.

The historic **UAE Consensus took place at COP28**, a landmark decision by over 130 countries to advance the energy transition. This agreement laid out ambitious targets, including tripling renewable energy capacity and doubling energy efficiency by 2030. Building on this progress [IRENA's Coalition for Action](#), a diverse partnership comprising over 150 non-governmental stakeholders, emphasises the need for a comprehensive transformation towards a 100% renewable energy system by 2050 – a system that would be more cost effective, and socio-economically and environmentally beneficial in the longer-term.

During the event, the Coalition for Action will present findings from the forthcoming publication on **Policy Recommendations for Achieving 100% Renewable Energy by 2050**. The report takes a deeper dive into recommended policies to get the world back on track for meeting both the short-term tripling up target as well as the ultimate 1.5°C climate change target by 2050, all within the framework of a future energy system supplied by a 100% renewable energy. The policy focus areas of the report include: (1) targets, incentives and regulatory frameworks (2) fossil and nuclear phase out strategies (3) infrastructure and technology enhancements and innovations (4) public and private financing and capacity building.

Roundtable discussions with leading experts will explore these policy focus areas in-depth – these discussions will aim to define a clear and cohesive pathway toward achieving a 100% renewable energy future, for the planet and its people.

Objectives

The event will aim to:

- **Examine pathways to scale up renewable energy deployment:** Discuss the establishment of concrete actions to phase out fossil fuel and nuclear sources. This includes showcasing enabling subsidies, fostering rapid innovation, enhancing capacity building, and addressing regulatory and financial barriers.
- **Actionable policy recommendations to support governments in achieving a 100% renewable energy system by 2050:** Explore key focus areas include flexibility, electrification, grid enhancement and modernisation, energy storage, and efficiency across sectors—spanning power, heat and cooling, transport, and hard-to-abate processes.
- **Highlight the significance of public-private collaboration:** Showcase how partnerships can drive the rapid deployment of renewable energy technologies through coordinated policy frameworks and market incentives.
- **Discuss the importance of a just energy transition:** Emphasise socially equitable approaches to achieving 100% renewable energy. This includes ensuring energy access, fostering job creation, and involving communities in the process.

Associated Publications

- Policy Recommendations for Achieving 100% Renewable Energy by 2050 (IRENA Coalition for Action, *forthcoming*)
- [100% renewable energy scenarios: Supporting ambitious policy targets](#) (IRENA Coalition for Action, 2024)
- [Delivering on the UAE Consensus: Tracking progress toward tripling renewable energy capacity and doubling energy efficiency by 2030](#) (IRENA, COP28, COP29, GRA, MoEA and Government of Brazil, 2024)

For more information please contact:

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