

Women in Diplomacy

Synergies for Change: Women Diplomats Driving Joint Efforts in Renewable Energy and Climate Action

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Background

The outcomes of COP28 in December 2023 marked a significant milestone with the establishment of the UAE Consensus. This historic agreement highlighted the urgent need for further concrete actions and commitments to facilitate a just and inclusive energy transition. Once more, clean energy emerged as the foundation of sustainable lives, livelihoods, and the global sustainable economy, underscoring the critical importance of renewable energy as an integral part of the solution to address climate challenges.

Among the outcomes, the invaluable contributions and leadership of women and girls in decision-making, governance, and financing for climate action, particularly in the clean energy transition, were recognised and highlighted in the **COP28 Gender-Responsive Just Transitions and Climate Action Partnership**. The Partnership, signed already by 80 countries, calls for actions around three core pillars: education, skills and capacity building to support individual engagement in transitions, better quality data to support decision-making in transition planning, and more effective finance flows to regions most impacted by climate change.

The call for actions is resonated by joint efforts by IRENA and the UAE in 2023 that led to another important outcome of COP28 - the **'Empowering Lives and Livelihoods – Renewables for Climate Action'** initiative. This groundbreaking multi-partner initiative seeks to provide and channel tailored financial solutions and programmatic support to enhance climate resilience and adaptation in vulnerable communities by integrating renewable energy into agri-food and health value chains, and at the same time strives to promote equity by extending benefits to women and youth. Additionally, through IRENA's various research, publication, as well as workshops and training programmes, the nexus of gender equality and just transition fuelled by renewable energy has been strengthened.

The pivotal role of women and girls in advancing the transition to a sustainable economy and renewable energy cannot be overstated. Following the proceedings of COP28, maintaining the momentum generated and extending the reach of the Gender-Responsive Just Transitions and Climate Action Partnership becomes imperative. Additionally, it is also important to delve deeper into the interconnections among various critical facets and capitalise on the synergies offered by diverse initiatives and partnerships. Through this collaborative approach, we can accelerate the energy transition while ensuring that no one is left behind.

Objective of the event

The Women in Diplomacy event presents a unique opportunity to strengthen the network of women diplomats engaged in renewable energy and climate change to amplify their pivotal roles in shaping a sustainable future and foster collaboration toward achieving our shared goals.

IRENA and the UAE are hosting an event with a dinner to provide an opportunity for diplomats, especially women, to network, share knowledge, and build partnerships in fostering the accelerated deployment of renewable energy and respond to climate change impacts. Additionally, the event will serve as a platform to raise awareness on the Gender-Responsive Just Transitions and Climate Action Partnership, and exchange best practice and initiatives that can create synergies to mainstream gender in renewable energy transition and empowering lives and livelihoods. Through dialogue and collaboration, participants will work towards advancing gender equality and sustainable energy transition agendas on the international stage.



Guiding questions

- How can we as diplomats further advocate for the Gender-Responsive Just Transitions and Climate Action Partnership at both international and national level?
- What innovative strategies and mechanisms can be employed to promote education, skills, and capacity building for individual engagement in transitions, ensure better quality data availability and utilization to support decision-making in transition planning, and enhance finance flows to regions most impacted by climate change, with a focus on empowering women and youth?
- What are examples of initiatives and activities in your country/regional that can support the implementation of Gender-Responsive Just Transitions and Climate Action Partnership, and how can these practices be duplicated to other regions?
- What are the key priorities and action areas for diplomats, especially women, to focus on in advancing gender equality and sustainable energy transition agendas within their countries and regions?
- In what ways can the “Women in Diplomacy” network contribute to mainstreaming gender in the renewable energy transition and empowering lives and livelihoods, both locally and globally?

For more information, please contact: IRENA Secretariat (representation@irena.org)

