

Twelfth session of the IRENA Assembly

2022 IRENA Legislators Forum

(Virtual Edition)

13 January 2022, 15:00 to 17:00 Gulf Standard Time

“Parliamentary and regulatory actions to drive national energy transition policies: from commitment to action”

Background

The energy sector, known for its slow pace of change, is undergoing a dynamic transition. The imperatives of climate change, energy poverty and energy security have made the widespread adoption of renewables and related technologies an essential solution. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, renewables-based energy systems have demonstrated remarkable resilience and opened new possibilities to revitalise economies and livelihoods.

As the window of opportunity quickly narrows, Legislators will have an increasingly crucial role in this important decade, to turn plans/commitments/strategies into action and close the gap towards the future. The growing number of countries committing to net-zero carbon strategies indicates a significant shift in the global climate discourse: an energy transition grounded in renewable sources and technologies could give us a fighting chance of limiting global warming to 1.5°C by 2050 and ensure that no one is left behind.

As important decision makers in the field of energy with keen insight of ground realities, Legislators are uniquely positioned to contribute to the achievement of different climate and sustainable development targets in all countries in the world. The energy transition is gaining momentum, and Parliaments have been critical in making marked progress and in creating an enabling environment for its success.

IRENA engages Legislators through various initiatives with the vision of driving global energy transitions with the accelerated deployment of renewables. Since 2016, IRENA has been hosting the annual Legislators Forum, a platform for substantive dialogue amongst Legislators and renewable energy experts on innovative solutions to advance the global energy transition by establishing an active network of renewable energy champions, and facilitating exchanges of information and best practices that will help parliamentarians to amplify their influence, whether in the executive branch, among regional and local stakeholders, or in the private sector and civil society.

Objectives

The 2022 edition of the IRENA Legislators Forum is taking place at a time when the imperative to transform the current energy system into one that is sustainable, resilient, and inclusive has never been more essential. Lack of affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy has a significant toll on people's economic opportunities, health and well-being, and ability to access public services, with women and children disproportionately impacted.

In this context, the 2022 IRENA Legislators Forum will present a timely opportunity for inclusive and diverse discussions on actions to shift the energy transition to the next level, in the context of moving from commitments to implementation in the Decade of Action.

While the benefits of intensified actions towards the energy transition are clear, building a strong and effective policy and regulatory framework with coherent, coordinated, and comprehensive strategies is an essential element for the successful implementation of national and international commitments under the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Together with IRENA experts and keen Legislators, the Forum will develop an outcome document with suggestions on how parliamentary and regulatory actions can advance national energy transition strategies. This includes references to the most up-to-date policy and regulatory measures that can guide Legislators in supporting countries on the path to the implementation phase of national and international commitments.

Participants of the Legislators Forum and government representatives are also invited to participate in the fifth IRENA Public-Private Dialogue and contribute to the discussion on "Renewable energy and circular economy: Focus on end-of-life management of renewables". The Public-Private Dialogue, held between members of the [IRENA Coalition for Action](#) (an international network of over 100 leading renewable energy players including private sector companies, industry associations, civil society research institutes and intergovernmental organisations), will take place virtually on 13 January 2022 at 17:00 Gulf Standard Time.

Participants of the Legislators Forum will be able to follow the plenary sessions as well as the different Ministerial sessions held at the margins of the twelfth session of the IRENA Assembly through a dedicated link that will be shared in due course.

Guiding Questions

- What are the key policies that Legislators should promote to ensure that Governments and Stakeholders move from commitment to implementation in supporting the energy transition, climate and sustainable development objectives?
- How can Parliamentarians promote the adoption of short- and long-term actions that advance national energy transition strategies in order to achieve climate and sustainable development targets? What is the role of Regulators in implementing such strategies and measures?
- How can IRENA support Legislators in establishing a national policy and regulatory framework to successfully implement national and international commitments under the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?



Associated Publications

- [World Energy Transition Outlook: 1.5°C Pathway](#) (2021)
- [IRENA'S Energy Transition Support to Strengthen Climate Action](#) (2021)
- [Tracking SDG 7: The Energy Progress Report](#) (2021)
- [Community Energy Toolkit: Best practices for broadening the ownership of renewables](#) (2021)
- [Renewable Energy and Jobs – Annual Review 2021](#) (2021)
- [Renewable Energy and Climate Pledges: Five Years after the Paris Agreement](#) (2020)

For more information please contact:

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