

## Renewable Energy: A Gender Perspective

13<sup>th</sup> October 2025, 3:30 pm – 5 pm GST

### BACKGROUND

As the world shifts from fossil fuels to renewable energy, discussions often focus on technology, costs, finance, and infrastructure. Increasingly, attention is finally turning to an under-recognized but most important dimension of the transition: people. Yet, too often, women's voices and experiences are still left out. Women, serving as community anchors, household managers, and frontline bearers of energy poverty, are disproportionately affected by energy access challenges, but remain underrepresented in renewable energy design, deployment, and decision-making. Women hold only a small share of the overall workforce, with lower representation in technical, leadership, and decision-making roles in the renewable energy sector. This exclusion not only perpetuates inequality but also deprives the transition of much-needed talent, innovation, and perspectives.

Change, however, is possible - and necessary. According to the IRENA-ILO *Renewable Energy and Jobs – Annual Review 2024*, global renewable energy employment reached 16.2 million in 2023 and is set to grow substantially in the coming decade. Every segment of the value chain requires diverse skills, and greater participation of women alongside men is critical to avoiding skills gaps and ensuring an inclusive, resilient energy future. Empowering women in this transition also brings co-benefits for gender equality, economic development, and climate resilience.

IRENA has long championed gender equity in renewable energy through data, advocacy, and policy support. Building on this work, IRENA is releasing an updated edition of *Renewable Energy: A Gender Perspective* with new insights into women's participation across the sector. To mark the launch, the upcoming Second Edition of the *Renewable Energy: A Gender Perspective* event will convene government leaders, private sector actors, and civil society champions to share evidence, exchange solutions, and reaffirm that gender equity is not a side issue but a foundation for a just, inclusive, and sustainable energy transition.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE DISCUSSION

The event will feature main findings from the Second Edition of the *Renewable energy: A Gender Perspective* report, and followed by a discussion among experts from government, international organisations, non-government organisations, private sector and global networks. The inclusive dialogue on how gender aspects are practically being integrated across the sector and what best practices can be replicated to ensure an energy transformation that is rapid, inclusive and leaves no one behind.



# AGENDA

**Opening Remarks** – Celia García-Baños - Programme Officer – Policy, Gender and Socioeconomics, IRENA

**MC and Presentation** – Celia García-Baños, Programme Officer, Policy, Socioeconomics and Gender

**Moderated panel:** Ute Colier, Acting Director KPFC, IRENA

**Panelists:**

Christine Lins – Executive Director of the Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition (GWNET)

Dipti Vaghela – Co-Founder and Network Manager of the Hydro Empowerment Network (HPNET)

Zonibel Woods - Senior Social Development Specialist · Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Vanessa Interiano - International Energy Affairs, El Salvador (TBC)

Jane Nakasamu - Kafue Gorge Regional Training Centre, Zambia (TBC)

**Closing remarks:**

Michael Renner, Head Socioeconomics, IRENA

