

# The Women in Wind Global Leadership Program

Jointly organised by:



**GWNET**  
Global Women's Network  
for the Energy Transition



**GWEC**  
GLOBAL WIND ENERGY COUNCIL

Gender diversity drives innovation, opens new pathways for technology deployment, brings valuable perspectives to social and economic development and provides a richer pool of talent for key and emerging industries. In the landscape of global issues requiring strong leadership and a skilled workforce, few areas are as critical as the transition to a sustainable energy system. Yet, as documented in IRENA's January 2019 report "Renewable Energy: a Gender Perspective," the renewables industry continues to be male-dominated.

In order to advance the role of women as agents of change in society and promote best practices within the wind industry, the **Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)** is teaming up with the **Global Women's Network for the Energy Transition (GWNET)** to launch the **Women in Wind Global Leadership Program**. The program is designed to accelerate the careers of women in the wind industry, support their pathway to leadership positions and foster a global network of mentorship, knowledge-sharing and empowerment.

In launching this program, GWEC and GWNET call on other stakeholders in the renewables industry to recognize the importance of equal participation in the fight against climate change and the promotion of sustainable development. In uplifting the next generation of stewards for a sustainable energy system, we affirm that our efforts are in alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goal 5 (achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) and UN Sustainable Development Goal 7 (ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all).

**For more information or interest in becoming a supporting partner:**

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*Women make up 32% of the renewables workforce, and 75% of them perceive gender-related barriers in the sector.*

*Source: 2018 study by IRENA with 1,440 respondents from 144 countries*

### The Women in Wind program will create:

- A dedicated program of training and mentoring for women in the wind industry, aimed at providing its participants with global perspectives, multidisciplinary experience and the network to advance to leadership positions;
- A network of mentors among leading women in the wind industry;
- A comprehensive education program that can be expanded upon year-on-year, incorporating the latest technology developments and best practices from the industry, to cover the areas of policy and advocacy, project management, project financing, turbine engineering and more;
- A platform to assist leading companies in the sector in identifying talent and reaching new gender equality benchmarks, allowing them to fully leverage their human resources; and,
- A growing network of alumni who can serve as mentors for the future generation of women entering the industry over the next decade, as wind becomes one of the world's dominant energy sources.

Diversity in background and geography are driving principles of the program. In its inaugural year, the program will welcome 8-10 participants across all disciplines of the sector, from or based in **10 emerging markets for wind**: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, the Philippines, South Africa, Thailand and Vietnam.

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## How will the program work?

Participants are selected from a call for applications and nominations by sponsors, open from **2 - 15 April 2019**. Successful applicants will be matched with a dedicated mentor and take part in a program from **May 2019 - January 2020**, including:

- A series of knowledge-transfer webinars and virtual mentorship meetings;
- A specially designed work experience program, with skill-building elements for leadership, communication, presentation and industry visibility;
- A week-long conference in Europe, including visits and meetings at key institutions, facilities and company headquarters relevant to the wind sector, as well as high-level seminars and workshops;
- Network-building opportunities at major international energy, renewables and wind events; and,
- A ceremony for program completion held at a high-level industry summit.

These activities will be accompanied by a storytelling campaign, following the journey of women through the program and celebrating their achievements.

**We look forward to launching this program with you on 2 April 2019!**

### About GWNET – [www.globalwomennet.org](http://www.globalwomennet.org)

Co-founded of by former REN21 Executive Secretary Christine Lins, GWNET empowers women in energy through interdisciplinary networking, advocacy, training, coaching and mentoring. GWNET seeks to address the current gender imbalances in the energy sector and to promote gender sensitive action around the energy transition, in both industrialised and emerging economies.

GWNET is a global network with individual and corporate members in over 50 countries aiming at empowering women working in sustainable energy in both industrialised and emerging/developing countries at different career levels from both the public and the private sector. GWNET is an international non-profit organisation founded in 2017 under Austrian law.

### About GWEC – [www.gwec.net](http://www.gwec.net)

GWEC is a member-based organisation that represents the entire wind energy sector. The members of GWEC represent over 1,500 companies, organisations and institutions in more than 80 countries, including manufacturers, developers, component suppliers, research institutes, national wind and renewables associations, electricity providers, finance and insurance companies.

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