

Enabling women in Sustainable Energy Field: A step towards sustainable communities

Workshop

International Beirut Energy Forum

25 September 2019

Beirut, Lebanon

Background

The Arab region witnessed a significant progress in the adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions; yet clean energy sector misses the full benefits of a diverse workforce.

Women can play a crucial role in upscaling energy access in remote, hard-to-reach areas especially in the MENA countries. Studies show that integrating women in the energy value chain results in more clean energy actions, and greater financial returns on investment.

Despite the limited gender-disaggregated data, there are several clearly identified intervention areas to ensure a balanced and diversified clean energy workforce. This includes removing barriers towards women's active participation in clean energy sector where they are under-represented especially in management positions. Achieving that requires implementation of coherent actions in specific areas, such as awareness raising about benefits from increased women involvement, creating and disseminating policies that are gender sensitive in workplaces, gender focused career development sessions and training programs.

To shed the light on this important matter, RCREEE in cooperation with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung are bringing together a diversified mix of speakers championing workplace diversity and inclusion to discuss the impact of diverse workforce and the needed steps for an inclusive workspace.

Our interactive workshop will be held on the side of International Beirut Energy Forum (IBEF), in its 10th edition.

The way forward...

Utilizing its access and strong connection with governments, organizations and local communities of renewable energy sector in 17 Arab countries, **RCREEE** aims to lay the ground for a stronger **female** engagement in clean energy sector with FES support.

To get started we need to understand the real barriers hindering female development in clean energy sector and turn them into real opportunities.



Organizations and utilities need to accept and embrace female talents and develop gender sensitive policies to encourage female engagement especially in management positions. A special attention should be given to nurturing female talents with customized networking, training and workshop opportunities to ensure an include workplace.

RCREEE & FES workshop will tackle gender supportive actions /initiatives an in energy sector benefiting from participants' experiences to define roles, possible contribution and initiatives for a gender inclusive sector.

Workshop Structure and Agenda

The workshop will walk the attendees through learning journey about the gender challenges in clean energy sector from international, regional scopes. The region attempts to address this matter to ensure an inclusive workforce to move full speed towards achieving the SDG. Speakers from different sectors will show case inspiring stories.

Accumulating all participants' experiences, RCREEE will discuss the initial steps needed for an inclusive workforce in energy sector.

The workshop will give the attendees opportunities to:

- Gain insights on women involvement in the energy sector
- Get acquainted with regional and international initiatives supporting a diverse energy workforce
- Be part of paving the way forward for stronger female engagement in Clean Energy Sector
- Network with various stakeholder

Tentative Agenda

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Time	Topic	Speaker
10:00-12:00	Opening of IBEF	
12:30 -13:15	Opening Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Minister of Energy and Water- Lebanon, Ms. Nada Boustani • RCREEE Executive Director, Dr. Ahmed Badr • FES Deputy Resident Director, Franziska Wehinger • LCEC Board President, Eng. Pierre El Khoury
13:15- 14:30	<p>Session I: Capitalizing on the region biggest assets</p> <p>Skilled talents and workforce are considered among MENA region's main assets. North Africa region having, on average, the second highest gender gap in unemployment in the world, after the Middle East (ILO 2017a, p. 17).</p> <p>Our speakers will introduce the latest perspectives on gender engagement in the workforce with specific focus on clean energy.</p>	<p>Rabia Ferroukhi, Director of Knowledge, Policy and Finance Centre, IRENA</p> <p>RCREEE</p> <p>Monica MADUEKWE - ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</p>

<p>15:30- 16:30</p>	<p>Session II: Inspiring Stories and initiatives</p> <p>Many initiatives are currently blossoming across the region facilitating a stronger engagement of females in clean energy. These initiatives are carried out by the government, private sector, NGO's and international funding institutions resulting into achieving the SDG and national economic and infrastructure development.</p>	<p>Lina Mobaideen, Project Development Manager, Jordan Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (JREEEF)</p> <p>Zainab Garashi, Founder & CEO , Engineers without Borders- Kuwait</p> <p>Representative of Lebanese NGO</p> <p>Ms. Salma El Shiekh, The Sudanese Artik Energy Start up</p>
<p>16:30- 17:00</p>	<p>Networking & Coffee break</p>	
<p>17:00- 18:00</p>	<p>Session III: A Future of Opportunities</p> <p>Recognizing the great benefits from stronger female engagement in the clean energy sector, an action plan is needed to boost the diversity of this sector.</p> <p>The first step on this road can be sharpening the skills of females in energy sector pool of talents with availing mentorship, networking and training opportunities.</p>	<p>Christin Lins, Executive Director, GWNET</p> <p>Ms. Sabrina Fawaz, FES mentoring program</p> <p>Noha Gamal, Operations & Member States relations Director and APSEY Program Manager, RCREEE</p> <p>Ms. Patil Patil Mesrobian, Program Development Officer, LCEC</p>

Logistics and inquires

- **Date:** 25 September 2019
- **Location:** Beirut, Lebanon
- **Venue:** Le Royal Hotel

For inquires on the event management please contact:

Yasmeen Oraby, RCREEE Senior Operations Specialist (Yasmeen.oraby@rcreee.org)