

REN21 MEMBER NEWSWIRE
Issue 3: January 2014

Dear Members,

Happy New Year! You find below the first newswire of 2014. As always, we remain at your disposal for any questions or suggestions you may have.

Best regards,

REN21 Secretariat

GSR UPDATE

As of January 15th data on 120 countries has been submitted. There has also been a strengthening of regional partnerships to increase regional coverage.

The first round of the GSR review process started on January 13th and will continue until January 29th. The draft can be consulted via the on-line peer review tool, [REN21+](#). Sections that are open for review include:

- Policy Landscape section and reference tables;
- Renewable Energy Support Policies table;
- Distributed Renewable Energy in Developing Countries;
- Feature: Tracking the Global Energy Transition: A Decade of Unprecedented Momentum for Renewables; and,
- Sidebars

The second round of data collection will start February 10th on technology, markets and industry sections.

Members are encouraged to consult the draft and submit comments. Should you prefer a PDF of the draft please contact rana.adib@ren21.net.

ECOWAS

Work has begun on the ECOWAS Renewable Energy Status Report. Worldwatch has been contracted to author the report and is working closely with REN21 on data collection. To ensure comprehensive reporting by the National Focal Point institutions in the fifteen-country region, REN21 and ECREEE are hosting a series of training webinars in January.

SAIREC

The dates for the next International Renewable Energy Conference (IREC) in South African have been set. The event will take place October 4-7th, 2015 in Cape Town.

OUTREACH

In January reference to REN21 material appeared in:

- the Dutch newspaper [TROUW](#) which ran [an article](#) (both online and offline) on the investment of renewable energies in developing countries. Information and data tables were used from the GSR 2013
- the Parliamentary Action on Renewable Energy (PARE) project used GSR information in their [Renewable Energy for Parliamentarians: A How-To Guide](#)
- an editorial in [Renewable energy World.com](#) referenced the GSR as part of an on-line rebuttal to US TV program critiquing renewables.
- GSR facts and figures are quoted in a forthcoming book on global energy policy, to be published by Zed Books (UK).

We continue to prepare and publish regular entries to the [REEGLE](#), the clean energy info portal.

PROMOTION, PRODUCTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

- Christine Lins was invited to be a member of the [Clean Energy Solution Center's](#) Advisory Board.
- The peer review tool REN21+ has been improved. Using the feedback from the GSR debriefing the Secretariat modified the tool so that it is easier to navigate the site and review documents. The improved functionality of the tool now allows the Secretariat to use its staff resources more efficiently during the document review process.
- REN21 will have a booth at [the Second High Level Meeting of the African-EU Energy Partnership](#) in Addis Ababa.
- REN21 documents were displayed at both the UNEP and IRENA booths at the [World Future Energy Summit](#) in Abu Dhabi/United Arab Emirates that ended today.

PRESENTATIONS

We continue to raise awareness about REN21 and the GSR in particular. REN21 staff will present at the following events:

- World Future Energy Summit (Abu Dhabi) 20-22nd January
- IEA RIAB – IRENA Workshop on Renewable Energy Investment in GCC (Abu Dhabi), 22nd January
- Second High Level Meeting of the African-EU Energy Partnership (Addis Ababa), 11-13th February

MEMBER UPDATE

SC member [Michael Eckert](#) has been instrumental in the development and launch of the [Green Bond Principles 2014](#). Enacted January 14th by 13 major banks from the US, UK, EU, Japan and Australia, the Green Bond Principles (GBP) are voluntary process guidelines that recommend transparency and disclosure. The Principles also promote integrity in the development of the Green Bond market by clarifying the approach for issuance of a Green Bond. (A Green Bond enables capital-raising and investment for new and existing projects with environmental benefits.)