

BACKGROUND AND PARTICIPATION



Ministers and Government Representatives agree to work within a „global policy network“ together with representatives from parliaments, local and regional authorities, academia, the private sector, international institutions, international industry associations, consumers, civil society, women’s groups, and relevant partnerships worldwide.

(Paragraph 9, Political Declaration, renewables 2004 Conference)

The Political Declaration of the International Conference for Renewable Energies, Bonn, Germany – renewables 2004 – initiated the establishment of a global policy network.

One year later, in June 2005, the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) was officially launched in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Today, REN21 is widely recognised for high-quality information, objective policy guidance, and innovative stakeholder cooperation for the promotion of renewable energy.

A Steering Committee of distinguished and committed individuals determines the Network’s overall strategy. The Steering Committee members work for a wide variety of governments, private sector groups, and civil society organisations in all world regions. The Secretariat, which is based in Paris, France, is provided by GTZ and UNEP and is also supported by the IEA.

Participation in REN21 is steadily growing, with many dedicated people and entities actively contributing to its reports, policy issue papers, information services, and action programmes for the development of renewables.

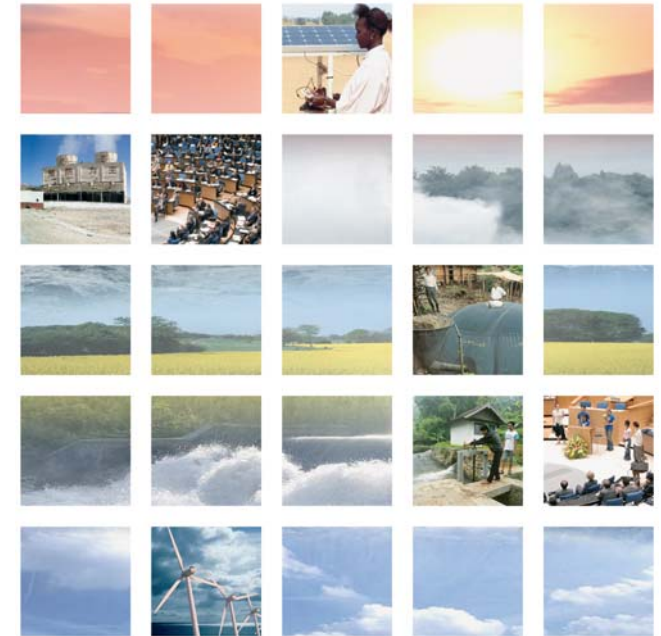


REN21 is a global policy network in which ideas are shared and action is encouraged to advance renewable energy. It provides a forum for leadership and exchange in international policy processes. REN21 promotes appropriate policies that increase the wise use of renewable energy in developing and industrialised economies.

Open to a wide variety of dedicated stakeholders, REN21 connects governments, international institutions, non-governmental organisations, industry associations, other partnerships, initiatives, and individuals. Linking participants from the energy, development, and environment communities, REN21 leverages their successes and strengthens their influence for the rapid expansion of renewable energy worldwide.

Visit the website at www.ren21.net

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POLICY • ADVOCACY • EXCHANGE

REN21 Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century



REN21 – providing international leadership for the rapid expansion of renewable energy in developing and industrial countries – based on the cooperation of stakeholders from the energy, development and environment sectors. REN21 encourages action in three areas: Policy, Advocacy, and Exchange.

POLICY Framing Priority Issues

REN21 and its participants encourage the inclusion of renewable energy matters in the deliberations of appropriate events and relevant political processes, such as the UN climate change policy process, G8 summits, or meetings of development banks. REN21 specifically accompanies the special series of high-profile renewable energy conferences begun at Bonn with the renewables 2004 Conference.

REN21 engages key leaders and stakeholders in efforts to strengthen national legislation and regulatory environments that accelerate the uptake of renewable energy in developing and industrialised economies. REN21 promotes market structures that allow for expanded access to public and private financing.

REN21 encourages governments and stakeholders to meet their commitments to renewable energy made in international political declarations and voluntary pledge programmes, and helps document and report on progress.

REN21 has facilitated the follow-up of the International Action Programme following the Bonn renewables 2004 Conference and the collection of pledges for the Washington International Action Program during the WIREC 2008 conference. The more than 300 pledges made in these programmes provide concrete examples and valuable case studies of what governments and other actors can do to advance renewable energy. REN21 informs the policy community about implementation, impacts, and success factors with regard to these initiatives.

ADVOCACY Highlighting Benefits

REN21 improves the understanding of the value of renewable energy as a critical component of a sustainable energy future. REN21 participants combine their expertise to produce authoritative information on the essential contribution of renewable energy to increasing access to energy services and to alleviating poverty in developing economies; to mitigating climate change and other negative environmental impacts of energy production; and to improving the security of energy supply.

REN21 tracks the progress renewable energy is making worldwide and analyses potentials and challenges, policy developments, and market trends. Its global multi-stakeholder backing makes REN21 a credible and objective source of information.

The highly recognised Renewables Global Status Report provides annually updated concise information on deployment status, regulatory frameworks and promotion policies, investment growth, and industry development.

Special issue papers include:

„Energy for Development: The Potential Role of Renewable Energy in Meeting the Millennium Development Goals“
„Changing Climates: The Role of Renewable Energy in a Carbon-Constrained World“
„Opportunities for the Rapid Deployment of Renewable Energy in Large Energy Economies“
„Renewable Energy for Africa: Potential, Markets and Strategies“

REN21 is formal endorser of „Global Trends in Sustainable Energy Investment“

EXCHANGE Promoting Knowledge Flow

REN21 promotes knowledge flow and exchange by tapping and linking existing databases on renewable energy markets and policies. The Network helps identify knowledge gaps and ensure they are filled by capable organisations and individuals.

Inviting joint analysis and frank debates, the website and issue groups of REN21 provide the forum where the diverse community of government ministries, international organisations, and stakeholder groups can come together to share experiences and engage in ongoing dialogues on priority issues for the expansion of renewable energy. Through these collective activities, REN21 serves as a catalyst for policy advice and capacity building.



Facilitating exchange among the community, REN21 is working together with the REEEP Partnership to build the reegle information gateway, a one-stop-shop for high quality, up-to-date information on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and key policy and industry actors.

Find out more on www.reegle.info

