



Oct 25, 2019



THE POTENTIAL OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

Building on earlier discussions, KIREC's last day brought further, in-depth discussions on the future of renewable energy.

Panelists discussed how to harmonize different perspectives of the government, market and civil society to bring better solutions in the energy transition through cooperation. Another panel looked at how to ensure rural areas get access to renewable energy to improve livelihoods.



The risks and challenges individuals and small-scale business owners face in running renewable energy businesses were brought to light during the session on innovative business models. Panelists said the government's co-investment in such businesses would be one way to help reduce the burden of costs.

The difficulties facing developing countries in East Asia in pursuing renewable energy policy were also addressed. Regional cooperation among developing countries in the region is key to help them push forward energy transition as otherwise, it is too costly.

KIREC's closing event saw closing remarks by South Korea's Trade, Industry and Energy Minister Sung-Yun-mo and the reading of the KIREC Seoul 2019 Conference Declaration (<http://www.kirec2019.kr/index.html>) by REN21 Vice President Irene Giner-Reichl. This Declaration notes participants' support for increasing the scale of renewables in Korea to deal with fine dust air pollution and increase associated health benefits. The importance

of the role of the cities, citizen participation and policy frameworks at the regional, national and local levels were also noted.

REN21's Executive Secretary Rana Adib wrapped up KIREC Seoul 2019 with a closing speech. "The discussions we had are all aimed at changing the normal. Considering the climate urgency and air pollution, this means making renewable energy the conventional fuel, not of tomorrow, but of today," Adib said. "We have all the keys to make it happen and the power of many will get us there."

We hope to see you all at IREC 2021!

Remember: Go to the KIREC website <http://www.kirec2019.kr/> for past bulletins, full programme and other conference information.

Find more photos of KIREC 2019 Seoul 

