

REN21 Annual Report 2013

PROVIDING
HIGH
QUALITY
INFORMATION

DEVELOPING
NETWORKS

CATALYSING
DISCUSSION
AND DEBATE

FUTURE
OUTLOOK



Message from REN21

Thoughts from
the REN21
Chair and
Executive
Secretary





Arthouros Zervos
Chair



Christine Lins
Executive Secretary

The year began with a wave of activity; REN21 co-organised the Abu Dhabi International Renewable Energy Conference (ADIREC) together with the Government of the United Arab Emirates. This first Middle Eastern IREC was timely as the MENA region is poised to be an emerging renewable energy champion, as documented in REN21's **MENA Renewables Status Report**. January also saw the

launch of a new publication, the **Renewables Global Futures Report**. This report provides valuable insights into current opinions on the future of renewable energy. REN21 will build on this inspiring mosaic of thinking to guide the development of its future activities and products.

Over the course of the year, REN21 initiated a range of debates on the status and future of renewable energy through workshops, presentations at high-level events, media articles and blog posts. With key actors from the public and the private sectors and representatives from REN21's multi-stakeholder network, there were lively discussions that developed concrete approaches to advance the rapid global transition to renewable energy. REN21 continued its close collaboration with key players such as the IEA, IRENA, UNEP and the World Bank, leading to joint products and events and underlining organisational complementarities.

The renewable energy sector faces exciting but challenging times. The REN21 **Renewables 2013 Global Status Report** showcased yet again an impressive increase in global capacity across all renewable energy sectors, with supporting policies spreading simultaneously to nearly 140 countries. Investment in renewable energy significantly increased in developing countries while there was a global decrease due to reduced technology costs and policy instability. Maintaining stable and predictable policy frameworks for renewables is crucial and integration of renewable energy in energy systems needs to be prioritised, both economically and politically.

We look forward to continuing our role as an agent for change towards a rapid global transition to renewable energy. We would like to thank our members and partners for their continued collaboration and support. Stay in touch; 2014 will be an exciting year as it marks the 10th anniversary of REN21!

Arthouros Zervos

Christine Lins

REN21: WHO WE ARE

REN21 is a multi stakeholder network dedicated to the rapid uptake of renewable energy worldwide

Our Members

Industry Associations



International Organisations



National Governments



Brazil



Denmark



Germany



Norway



Spain



Uganda



United Kingdom



India



United Arab Emirates

NGOs



Science and Academia



Members at Large: Michael Eckhart | Mohamed El-Ashry |
David Hales | Kristy Hamilton | Peter Rae | Arthouros Zervos

REN21



**Jonathan
Skeen**
Consultant
(Jan—June 2013)



**Rana
Adib**
Research
Coordinator



**Glen
Wright**
Intern
(as of Sept 2013)



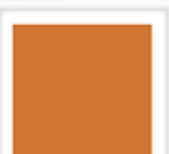
**Sandra
Chavez
Valazquez**
Intern
(Jan—June 2013)



**Christine
Lins**
Executive
Secretary



**Kanika
Chawla**
Junior Policy
Consultant



Secretariat



**Hannah
Murdock**
Intern
(as of Sept 2013)



**Laura E.
Williamson**
Communication
& Outreach
Manager



**Lily
Riahi**
Policy Advisor
(Jan—June 2013)



**Jakob
Thomas**
Intern
(Jan—May 2013)



**Martin
Hullin**
Project
Manager &
Exec. Assistant



**Romain
Zissler**
Intern
(Feb—Aug 2013)



REN21 ACTIVITIES

Key milestones and events in 2013

JANUARY

Abu Dhabi
International
Renewable
Energy
Conference

13th REN21
Steering
Committee,
Abu Dhabi

Launch of
*Renewables
Global Futures
Report*

MARCH

REN21/REEEP
event at
Vienna
International
Center

MAY

Launch of
*MENA
Renewables
Status Report*

FEBRUARY

Review
process of
SE4All Global
Tracking
Framework
using
REN21+

APRIL

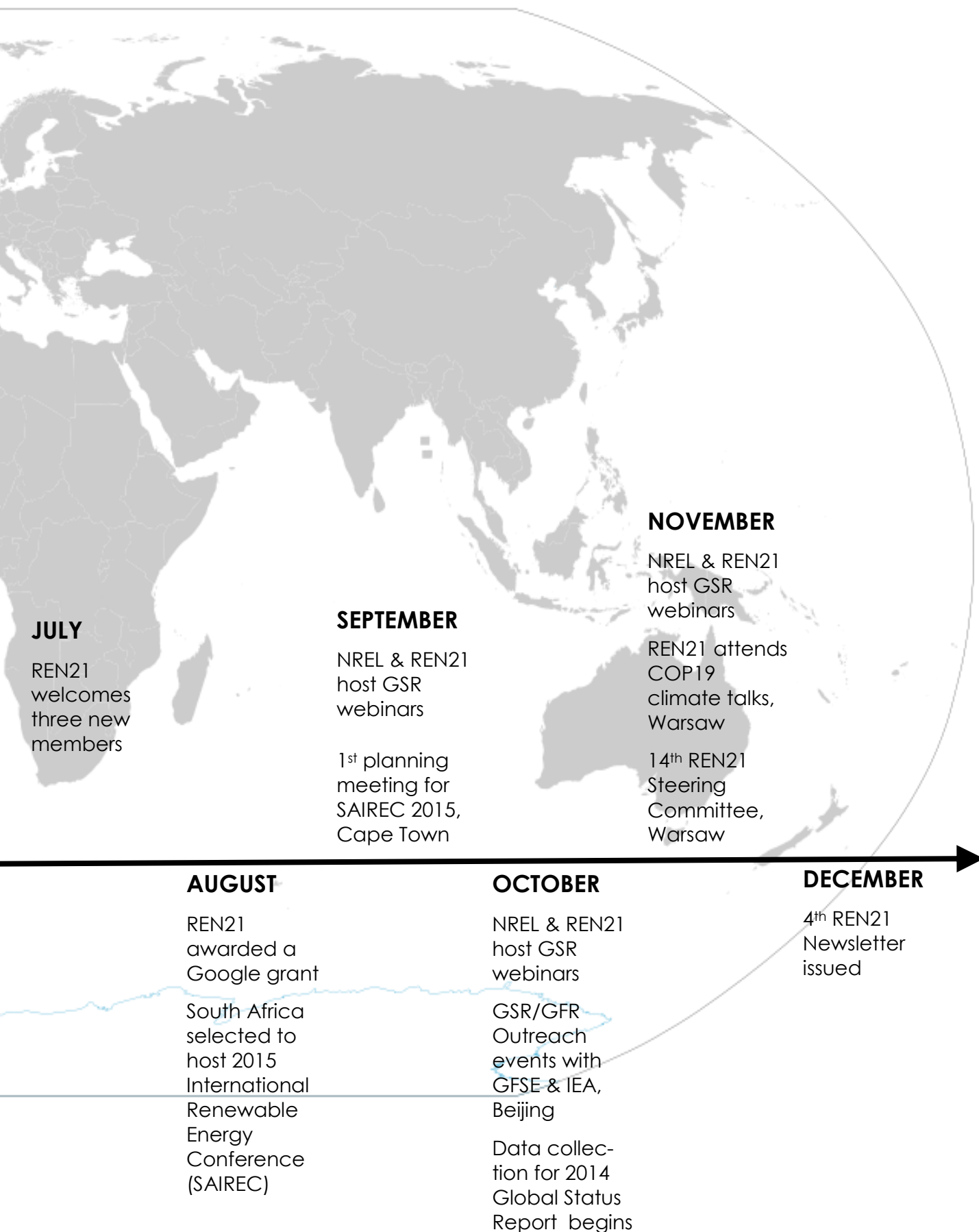
REN21/
Worldwatch
event on
Capitol Hill,
Washington,
DC

REN21/UNEP
workshop at
United Nations
Headquarters,
New York

JUNE

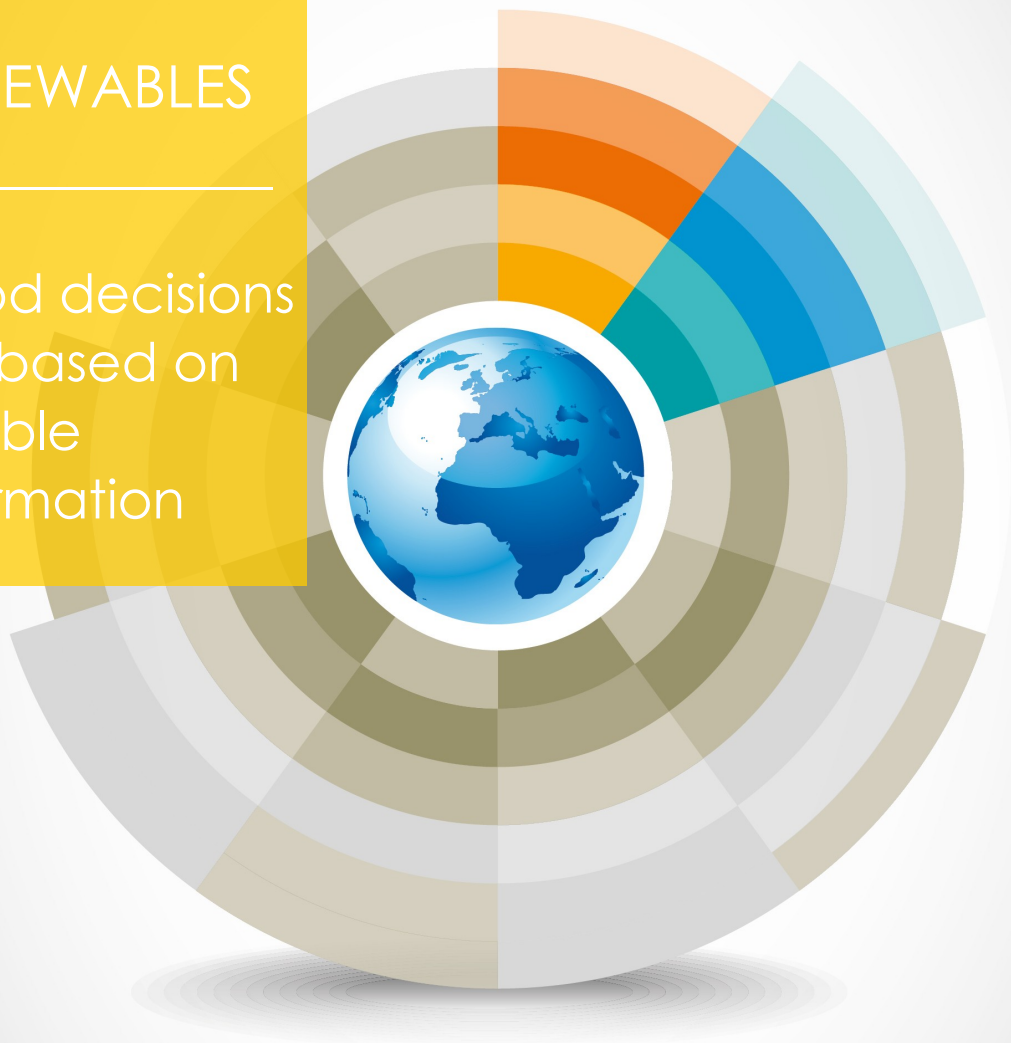
Launch of
*Renewables
2013 Global
Status Report*

GSR/GFR
Outreach
events: BMZ,
Bonn; IRENA &
the UAE, Abu
Dhabi; EU
Commission,
Brussels



PROVIDING
HIGH
QUALITY
INFORMATION
ON
RENEWABLES

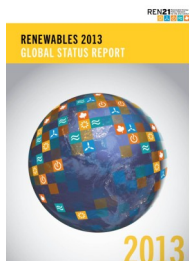
Good decisions
are based on
reliable
information



Over the course of 2013, REN21 produced three key reports, each one presenting a different perspective on renewable energy. REN21 helped establish the Global Tracking Framework to chart progress toward the three-interlinked objectives of Sustainable Energy for All.

REN21's work in 2013 remained focused on producing high quality information. Each publication produced drew on the organisation's established network of experts and addressed key questions about renewable energy deployment.

Status of renewables



The **Renewables 2013 Global Status Report** (GSR) continued its tradition

of providing a comprehensive overview of the current status of renewables. The report benefited from the input of more than 500 contributors, researchers, authors and reviewers. System transformation was this year's featured section.

The report was jointly launched in parallel with the Frankfurt School / UNEP Collaborating Centre's **Global Trends in Re-**

newable Energy Investment 2013 report. Press releases were issued in seven languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese and Spanish. The 2013 GSR was also produced in Korean—a first for the publication.

Demand for the 2013 GSR was high. In the six months following its launch over 30,000 copies of the publication were downloaded. More than 600 online and print media outlets wrote about the report resulting in coverage across 37 countries and in nine different languages. By year's end, over 275 organisations had used GSR data; users cut across all of REN21's five key stakeholder groups. A survey among GSR users revealed that most readers use the report to inform the policy making process; more than 40 per cent of GSR readers consult the document in parallel with the REN21

Renewables Interactive Map.

The **GSR 2013 Key Findings** was published in conjunction with the GSR and provided readers with a quick overview of the latest status on renewable.

A look to the future

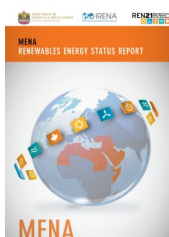
In contrast to the **Global Status Report**, REN21's **Renewables Global Futures Report** (GFR) shows the range of credible possibilities for the future of renewable energy. The GFR does not present just one vision of the future, but instead a full and objective range of visions based on the collective and contemporary thinking of many. The report draws from an array of interviews with 170 experts from around the world,



along with more than 50 recently published scenarios, producing a “mosaic” of thinking about the future. The GFR was released in January.

Regional perspective

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Renewables Status Report was launched in May. It covers 21 countries, including both net oil-exporting and net oil-importing countries. Prepared by REN21 as an outcome of the Abu Dhabi International Renewable Energy Conference (ADIREC, 15-17th January 2013) this regional report provides an overview of developments in renewable energy markets, industries, policies, and investments in the MENA region. It draws on the most recent data available and involved the participation of more than 50 regional contributors and researchers. The report serves as a benchmark for measuring progress in the deployment of renewable energy in the MENA region.

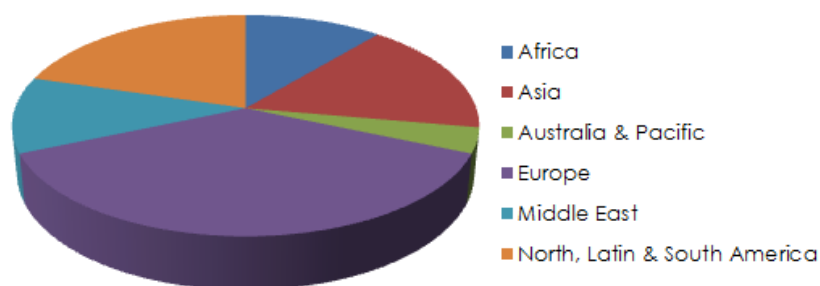


Who is using the GSR?

The GSR has been cited by over 275 organisations to date, including:

Asian Development Bank	PWC
Deloitte	Union of Concerned Scientists
European Commission	United Nations
European Parliament	United Nations Development Program
ECREEE	World Bank
Greenpeace	World Future Council
IBM	World Nuclear Association
Inter-American Development Bank	Worldwatch Institute
International Energy Agency	WWF
National Geographic	

Geographic spread of GSR users



Ensuring a participative review process

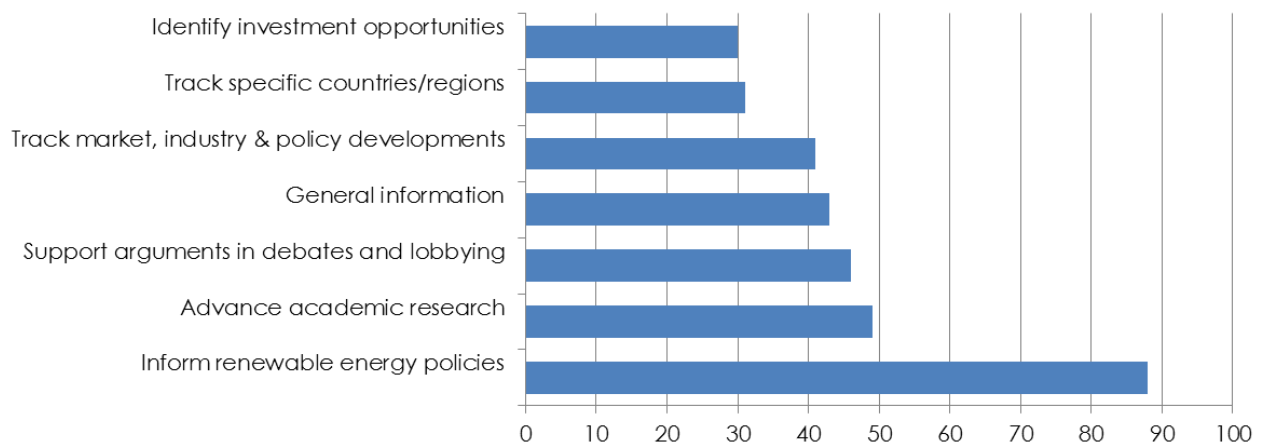
REN21+ —a web-based platform—allows the Secretariat to consult with a large number of stakeholders, ensuring a participative document review process. In 2013 all REN21 documents underwent this review process. REN21+ was also used to coordinate the input of more than 150 stakeholders to the SE4ALL Global Tracking Framework.

Getting the word out

In 2013, REN21 was one of 200 NGOs worldwide to be awarded an open-ended Google grant to support its online marketing activities. REN21 is using this award to publicise its work via targeted ads and word searches. Visitors to REN21's website have doubled since August—when the grant was awarded. Overall download of REN21's publications rose by 30 percent.

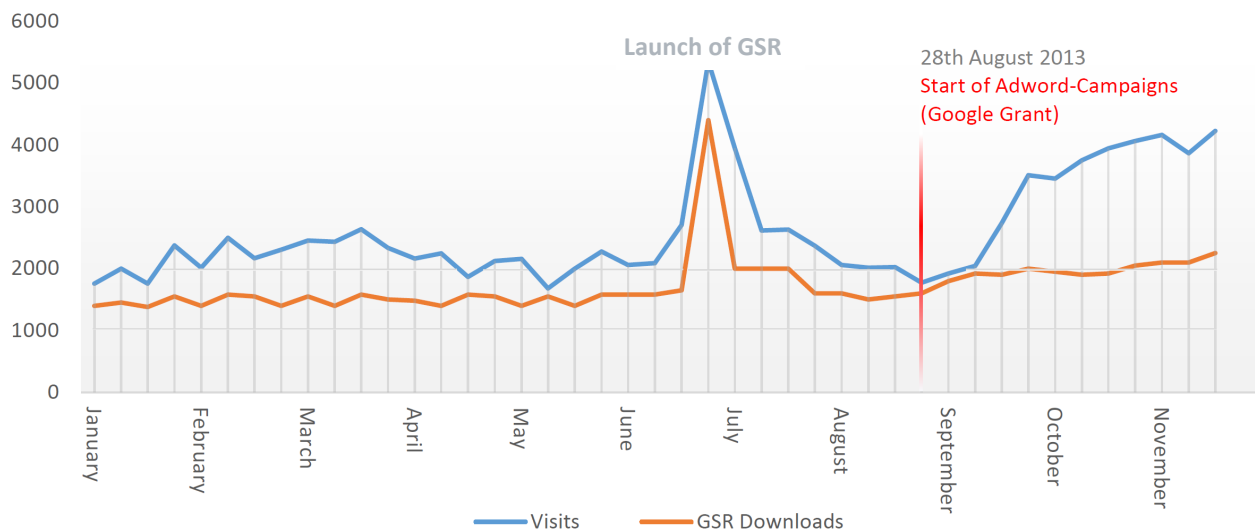


The GSR is used to...



Results of the Google grant: increase in website visits

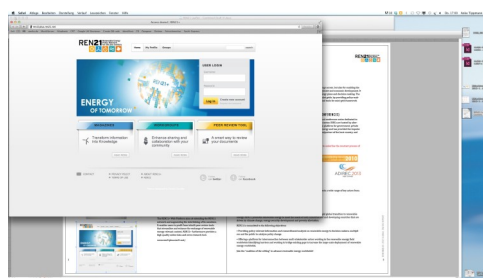
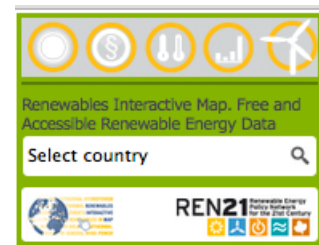
Weekly Visits / GSR 2013 Downloads



Sharing data

Substantive efforts were made in 2013 on the REN21 Renewables Interactive Map. Consistency and quality of data across the database were improved. These efforts coupled with targeted advertising led to a twelve percent increase of users by year's end.

Additional work included improving the user-friendliness of the site, ensuring a regular update schedule and collaborating with other renewable energy information portals.



DEVELOPING
NETWORKS,
EXPANDING
OUTREACH
EFFORTS

REN21 worked
with others
around the
world to
promote
renewables
and build-up
networks

Global Networks

As part of its 2013 activities REN21 worked hard to deepen and strengthen its network. Cooperation with other organisations to increase the visibility of renewables worldwide was also a key activity.

Central to REN21's network is its community of contributors that assists the Secretariat each year in producing the **Renewable Global Status Report**. In 2013 REN21's contributor network expanded to over 500 contributors—from 80 countries—up from 400 in the previous year.

Data provided by the GSR contributors also fed into the REN21 Renewables Interactive Map.

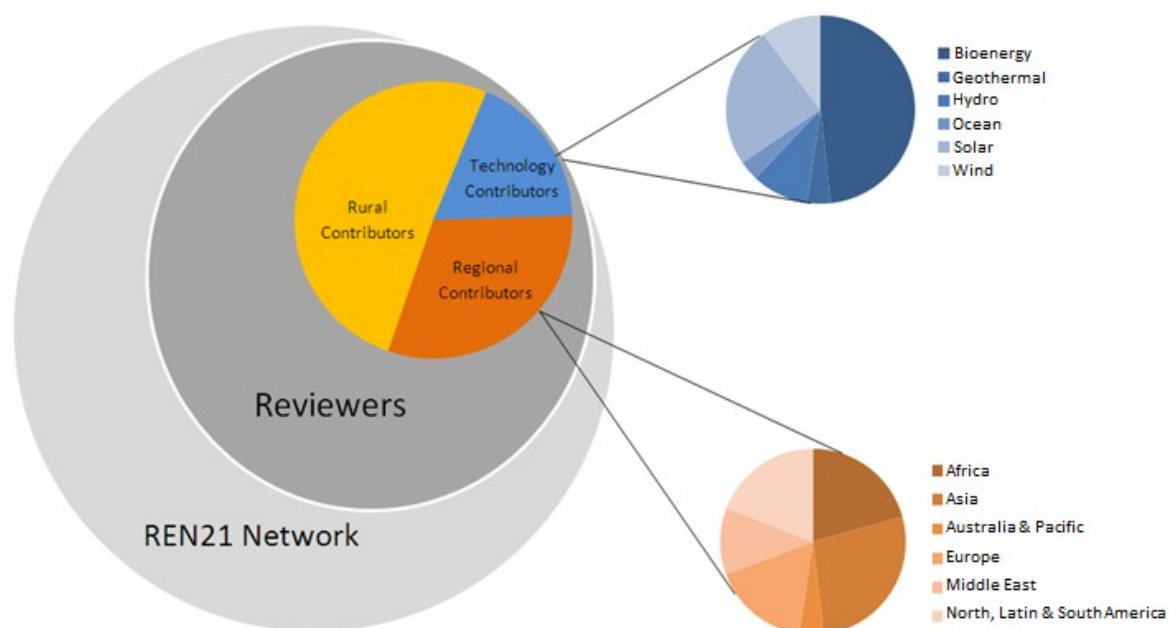
Using the information provided, more than 4,000 data points were added. 2013 marked the year when REN21 became a German registered non-profit organisation. With this new status the organisation developed a membership strategy and expanded its membership base by three members.

Four newsletters were produced in 2013. Distributed quarterly, the

REN21 newsletter allows members to share news with the wider REN21 community. Currently the newsletter has more than 9,000 subscribers.

In order to remain in touch with former staff, REN21 developed an alumni network. Now, former REN21 staff and interns remain connected with each other and the REN21 Secretariat.

GSR Contributing Community



Cooperating with others



Cooperation with the International Energy Agency (IEA) continued throughout 2013. It culminated in early November with a joint outreach event based on REN21's **2013 Renewables Global Status Report** and the IEA's **Medium-Term Renewable Energy Market Report 2013**.



REN21 maintained its collaboration with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) on the development of IRENA's Global Atlas. Other activities included working with IRENA on country-level data collection and sharing approaches on how to improve external communication on renewables.



REN21 contributed to the SE4All Global Tracking Framework, a multi-agency process—

coordinated by the IEA and the World Bank—to track progress on the UN Secretary General's Sustainable Energy for All initiative. This Framework monitors progress towards meeting the three SE4ALL objectives mapped out by the UN Secretary General: universal access to modern energy services; doubling the global rate of improvement of energy efficiency; and doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix by 2030.



REN21 collaborated with the EU Energy Initiative Partnership Dialogue Facility (EUEI PDF) to develop a **Minigrid Policy Toolkit**. The toolkit is to help policy makers incorporate renewable energy and hybrid-based

mini-grids into national energy plans. A draft toolkit has been developed and is being tested with select decision makers. The toolkit will be available early in 2014.



Frankfurt School
UNEP Collaborating Centre
for Climate & Sustainable Energy Finance

The Secretariat also worked together with the Frankfurt School / UNEP Collaborating Centre on its **Global Trends in Renewable Energy Investment 2013** report.



REN21 continued to contribute to reegle's sustainable energy blog. Content drew inspiration from REN21's various reports and outreach activities.

Thank you!

REN21 would like to thank GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) and UNEP for their sustained support of REN21. Since its creation in 2005, both agencies have co-hosted the REN21 Secretariat.



Contributing to publications

Over the course of 2013, REN21 contributed to various publications including articles in “Liaison Energie-Francophonie” and the “Arab Forum for Environment and Development” (AFED) in French and in English and Arabic respectively.

An article in “bridges” looked at the use of renewable energy to ‘go green’. Two chapters in

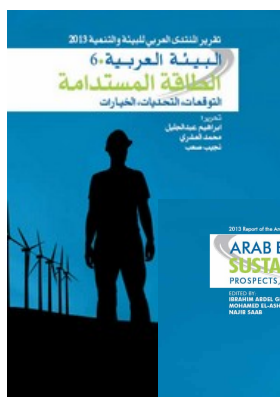
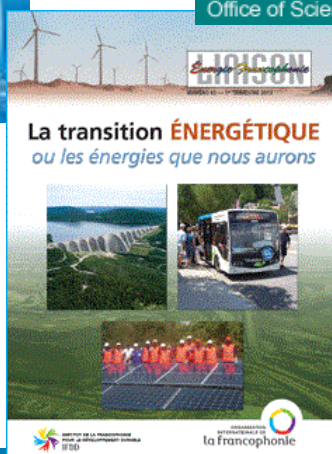
Sustainable Energy Policies for Europe: Towards 100% renewable energy

looked at the history of EU renewable energy policy as well as what can be learned from its best practices. The latter chapter looked specifically at how European legislation and policy development can contribute to the growth of renewables globally.

A short paper in UNESCO's “Les Énergies renouvelable au service de l'humanité” exam-

ined progress to date in the development of renewables and commented on how projections in the renewables sector historically fall short of what the sector can actually deliver.

Various other articles were prepared for external newsletters and bulletins such as the Italian on-line news service AGIENERGIA, the World Wind Energy Association Bulletin, Energyenviro, Worldwatch Institute and SE4ALL.



REN21 worked with other organisations to raise the level of debate on a global transition towards renewable energy



REN21 co-convened the Abu Dhabi International Renewables Energy Conference (ADIREC) where countries endorsed the growth of renewable energy. Throughout the year REN21 promoted renewables globally by convening high-level discussions, webinars, and presenting at various international conferences.

The Abu Dhabi International Renewable Energy Conference (ADIREC) was held January 2013 and co-convened by REN21 and the United Arab Emirates.



This was the first IREC to be held in the Middle East; approximately 1,000 people attended.

The conference demonstrated the region's spectacular commitment to and growing investment in renewables. REN21 launched the Executive Summary of the **MENA Renewables Status Report** at this event, as well as the **Renewables Global Futures Report** (GFR).

Stimulating debate; catalysing discussion

2013 saw a number of high-level panel discussions and debates on renewables.

In March REN21 convened a panel discussion at the Vienna International Center in cooperation with REEEP. A joint event with the Worldwatch Institute on Capitol Hill in Washington DC brought experts and politicians together to discuss the state of renewables. Events in Abu Dhabi with IRENA, in New York at the United Nations Headquarters with UNEP, in Bonn with the

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and in Brussels with the European Commission at the EU Sustainable Energy Week served as platforms to highlight trends in the renewables field, outline anticipated developments, and debate new policy measures. An event at the Austrian Embassy in Beijing, China looked at both the current status and medium-term outlook of renewables in China. The event was held in cooperation with the Global Forum on Sustainable Energy (GFSE) and the International Energy Agency (IEA).

BMZ



Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung



renewable
energy
& energy
efficiency
partnership

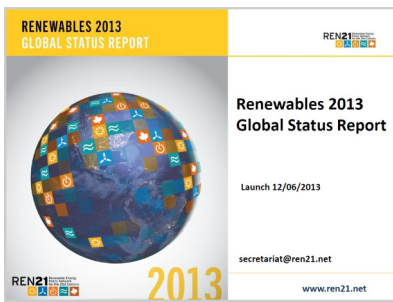


IRENA

International Renewable Energy Agency



Global Forum on Sustainable Energy
GFSE – www.gfse.at



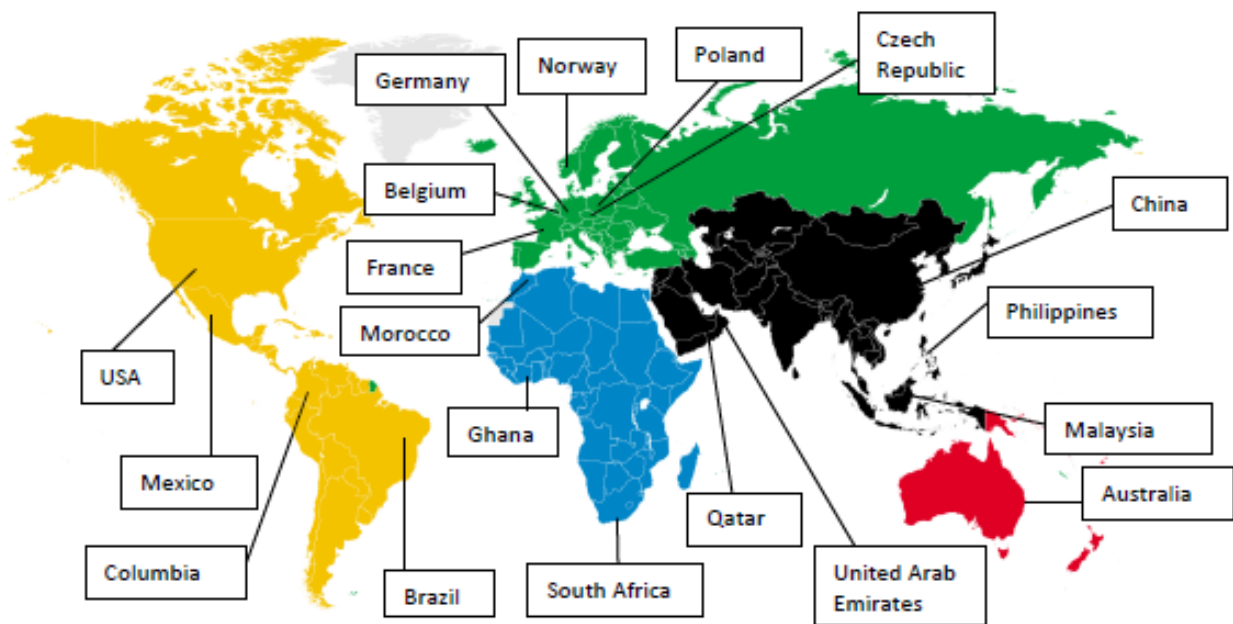
Other awareness raising activities included cooperating with the Clean Energy Solutions Center in hosting a series of ten, region-specific and topical webinars. Each we-

binar presented results from the 2013 Global Status Report and was complemented by a regional presentation given by an expert from REN21's contributing community.

Throughout 2013, REN21 staff participated around the world in more than 25 high-level events, engaging with a wide variety of participants on the

status of renewables and the role of policy in ensuring renewable uptake. By year's end there were over 100 presentations highlighting key findings of different REN21 reports.

International outreach: where REN21 products were presented

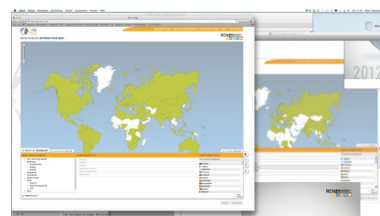


REN21 Flagship Products and Activities

Renewables Global Status Report



Renewables Interactive Map



Renewables Global Futures Report



Regional Status Reports



Global Status Report On Local Renewable Energy



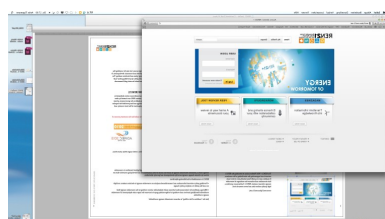
Facilitation of IRECs



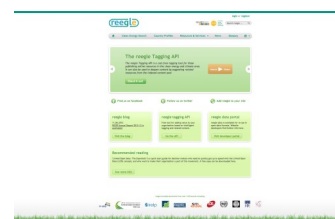
Internationale Konferenz
für Erneuerbare Energien, Bonn
International Conference
for Renewable Energies, Bonn



REN21+: REN21's Global Web Platform



reegle Clean Energy Information Portal



FUTURE OUTLOOK

Upcoming
projects and
events



2014 will mark the 10th anniversary of REN21. It will be celebrated with a series of new activities and developing specific renewable energy issues in detail.

Looking forward

2014 will be special year for REN21 as it marks the ten year anniversary of the Bonn International Renewable Energy Conference and the subsequent creation of REN21. The organisation will celebrate this milestone with a publication on the evolution of renewables starting with a ten-year retrospective on the political evolution of renewables and concluding with an outlook on the next decade. The publication will be launched at the start of REN21's summer academy.

The summer academy is a new outreach initiative. "Advancing the Energy Transition Globally" will be an opportunity for lively exchange among the growing community of REN21 contributors and the opportunity to brainstorm on future-orientated policy solu-

tions.

REN21 will cooperate with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) to produce a renewables status report for the ECOWAS region (Africa). Particular attention will be paid to the roles of distributed renewable energy and energy efficiency.

June 2014 will see the launch of the 9th edition of the Renewables Global Status Report. Additional topical reports are also planned for 2014 and include:

- *Distributed Renewable Energy in Sub-Saharan Africa: Status and future prospects*

- Thematic Global Futures Reports

Planning for the 2015 International Renewable Energy Conference (IREC) will also get under way in 2014. South Africa was selected as the host country for the first IREC to be held on the African continent. The 2015 South African IREC (SAIREC) will be an opportunity to stimulate Africa's renewable energy deployment by sharing international experiences. SAIREC will also be an occasion to help other African countries accelerate their own renewable energy development plans.



Internationale Konferenz
für Erneuerbare Energien, Bonn
International Conference
for Renewable Energies, Bonn



Washington International
Renewable Energy Conference 3-6 mars 2008



ADIREC 2013
ABU DHABI



**ECOWAS CENTRE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY
AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY**



STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Input from five
stakeholder
groups shapes
REN21's work
programme



REN21 Steering Committee

INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS

Michael Brower

American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE)

Ernesto Macías Galán

Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE)

David Green

Clean Energy Council (CEC)

Li Junfeng

Chinese Renewable Energy Industries Association (CREIA)

Rainer Hinrichs-Rahlwes

European Renewable Energy Council (EREC)

Steve Sawyer

Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)

Marietta Sander

International Geothermal Association (IGA)

Richard Taylor

International Hydropower Association (IHA)

Heinz Kopetz

World Bioenergy Association (WBA)

Stefan Gsänger

World Wind Energy Association (WWEA)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Bindu Lohani

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Piotr Tulej

European Commission

Robert K. Dixon

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Paolo Frankl

International Energy Agency (IEA)

Adnan Z. Amin

International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

Veerle Vandeweerd

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Mark Radka

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Pradeep Monga

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Vijay Iyer

World Bank

NGOS

Ibrahim Togola

Mali Folkecenter/ Citizens United for Renewable Energy and Sustainability (CURES)

Irene Giner-Reichl

Global Forum on Sustainable Energy (GFSE)

Sven Teske

Greenpeace International

Emani Kumar

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability South Asia

Tetsunari Iida

Institute for Sustainable Energy Policies (ISEP)

Tomas Kaberger

Japan Renewable Energy Foundation (JREF)

Harry Lehmann

World Council for Renewable Energy (WCRE)

Athena Ronquillo Ballesteros

World Resources Institute (WRI)

Rafael Senga

World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Michael Eckhart

Citigroup, Inc.

Mohamed El-Ashry

United Nations Foundation

David Hales

Second Nature

Kirsty Hamilton

Chatham House

Peter Rae

REN Alliance

Arthouros Zervos

Public Power Corporation

NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS

Mariangela Rebuá de

Andrade Simões

Brazil

Hans Jørgen Koch

Denmark

Karsten Sach / Ingolf Dietrich

Germany

Shri Tarun Kapoor

India

Øivind Johansen

Norway

David Pérez

Spain

Paul Mubiru

Uganda

Thani Ahmed Al Zeyoudi

United Arab Emirates

Nick Clements

United Kingdom

SCIENCE AND ACADEMIA

Nebojsa Nakicenovic

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

David Renné

International Solar Energy Society (ISES)

Kevin Nassiep

South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI)

Rajendra Pachauri

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

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FUTURE
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